

# THE ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER,

UNDER THE SANCTION OF  
THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

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## Monthly Summary.

**EDITORIAL.**—As our last Number was entirely taken up with a full report of the Annual Meeting of our Society, our Summary in the present issue will comprise the events of the last two months. We also publish a Supplement, with a view to use up a quantity of over-matter relating to the Freedmen's-Aid Movement, many of our friends in the West Indies and other far-off countries having expressed a wish for information on this subject. Owing to this circumstance, our publication has been delayed.

**DOMESTIC.**—The Annual Meeting of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society* was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate Street, on Monday evening, May 29th, Samuel Gurney, Esq., M.P., in the chair. The attendance was large and highly respectable. A full report of the proceedings was published in our last Number.

At their general meeting, on the 5th May ultimo, the Committee of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society* passed a resolution relating to the assassination of President Lincoln. The text will be found in another column.

On the 13th ultimo Lord Brougham presented a petition to the House of Lords, from the Committee of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society*, praying for the repeal of the Aberdeen Act; and on the 19th his lordship moved for the production of supplementary papers on the slave-trade.

On the 30th, a deputation of the Committee of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society* had an interview with

Viscount Palmerston, on the subject of the slave-trade, at Cambridge House, Piccadilly. The deputation consisted of R. Alsop, Thomas Binns, Josiah Forster, Robert Forster, F. Wheeler, and L. A. Chamerovzow, and was introduced by the Right Hon. Lord Brougham.

Levi Coffin, of Cincinnati, representing the Western Freedmen's-Aid Association, and Dr. Haynes, agent for the National Freedman's Relief Association, New York, have returned to the United States. In their place, the Rev. Dr. Storrs, and the Hon. C. C. Leigh, have arrived in England, and are successfully prosecuting their mission. The Rev. J. Sella Martin is also in this country, on a similar mission, as the representative of the *American Missionary Association*.

The Duke of Argyll has addressed to the *Scotsman* a letter, commenting upon the reference by the Earl of Dalhousie, at the General Assembly of the Free Church, to American topics. Earl Dalhousie "totally denies that the origin of the war had been to settle the question of the abolition of Slavery," and alleged that "it arose from the evil passions of men, out of the struggle of party against party, and that it was the hand of God alone that overruled the vain purposes of man, and brought about the grand issue of the abolition of Slavery." In reply to these assertions, the Duke of Argyll points out that the "platform" on which Mr. Lincoln was elected was a written document, and that of the seventeen paragraphs not less than one-third were devoted to direct and emphatic declarations of the anti-slavery principle.

Lord Brougham has given the following

letter to the Rev. Dr. Storrs and the Hon. C. C. Leigh—

"I heartily recommend to the sympathies of my countrymen the cause of the Freedmen of the United States, and sincerely desire entire success to the efforts now making to educate them for the freedom to which the nation has called them."

**AFRICA.**—Stephen Allan Benson, late President of Liberia, died on the 24th January last, at his residence, Buchanan County, Liberia.

**BRAZIL.**—The *Correio Mercantil* of the 5th April last, published at Rio de Janeiro, states that Baron de Campo-Grande, who died in January, had, by his will, emancipated the whole of his slaves, leaving them the usufruct of some public bonds, and, for the period of two months, lodging, board, and maintenance, as during his life-time, and until they procure occupation. It adds, "Honour to the memory of the Baron de Campo-Grande! Confusion to the legacy hunters!"

**FRANCE.**—A large meeting of ladies took place on the 27th April last, at the residence of Mons. E. Laboulaye, in Paris, when it was resolved to establish a number of sewing-circles, for the purpose of making up clothes to send to the freedmen in the United States. Each circle is to endeavour to make up a subscription to the value of 125 francs (5*l.* sterling) or more, which is to be deposited with the Treasurer of the general Committee. A special Committee undertakes the purchase of the raw material, which is distributed amongst the circles. A circular to this effect, embodying a stirring appeal from the pen of Mons. E. Laboulaye, has been issued, with the following list of the Ladies' Committee:

*President*, Madame Ed. Laboulaye, 34 rue Taitbout; *Vice-Presidents*: Mesdames Cochin, 23 Rue St. Guillaume; Ed. de Pressensé, 3 Rue de Boulogne; *Treasurer and Secretary*, Madame Coignet, 22 Rue de Berri, Champs-Elysées. *Committee*: Mesdames. André Walther, Versailles; Balignerie d'Egmont, 102 Faubourg Saint-Honoré; Bertillon, 94 rue Blanche; Eug. Bersier, 8 rue Mansart; Bertin, 7 Rue des Saints-Pères; Cantagrel, 33 rue de Rivoli; Coquerel, 16 rue Moncey; Louis Coignet, Saint-Denis; Comtesse Delaborde, 31 rue Tronchet; Dowling, 32 rue de Berri; Fisch, 19 rue Taranne; Edmond de Guerle, 50 rue du Colysée; Grandpierre, 4 rue de l'Oratoire-Saint-Honoré; Comtesse d'Haussonville, 109 rue Saint-Dominique; William Jackson, 15 avenue d'Antin; Laure, 3 rue Saint-Joseph; Comtesse Anatole Lemerrier, quai d'Orsay; Henri Lutteroth, 14 rue Fortin; Ernest Lemaitre, 23 rue de Boulogne; Martin-Paschoud, 206 rue de Rivoli;

Récamier, 1 rue du Regard; Comtesse de Richmond, 7 rue du Regard; Jules Simon, 10 place de la Madeleine; Sunderland, 14 rue de l'Oratoire; De Valcourt, 12 boulevard Saint-Michel; Wolff, 22 rue Rochecouart; Cornélis de Witt, 52 faubourg Saint-Honoré.

The Committee of ladies announce that they are about to send out a first instalment of 400 garments. The subscriptions received up to the 1st of June amount to upwards of 8000*f.* (320*l.* sterling.)

Another Association has been formed in Paris, under the name of *The French Emancipation Committee*, whose object is to correspond with the Societies in America, England, and other countries, for the purpose of promoting the entire abolition of Slavery wherever it exists, the education and assistance of the freedmen, and the publication of facts bearing upon this great cause of humanity. The following gentlemen constitute the Provisional Committee: *Honorary Presidents*: the Duke de Broglie, President of the Commission of 1843 for the Abolition of Slavery, and Mons. Guizot, of the French Academy. *President*: Mons. Laboulaye, of the Institute. *Secretary*: Mons. Augustin Cochin. *Committee*: Prince Albert de Broglie; the Comte de Montalembert (of the French Academy); MM. Audley, Leopold de Gaillard, Charles Gaumon (Member of the Commission of 1848), Léon Lavedan, Henry Martin, Henry Moreau, H. Wallon (of the Institute), Cornélis de Witt, and the Revs. Guillaume Monod and E. de Pressensé. The Committee have issued an address to Andrew Johnson, President of the United States.\*

In connection with the Freedmen's Aid movement, the General Conference of Protestants, Pastors, Elders, and Deacons, held in Paris on the 3rd of May last, and the preceding and following days, issued an appeal to their brethren throughout France, and in other countries where French is the ordinary tongue, soliciting contributions in aid of the work. The Rev. Pastor Vaugirard, of Nantes, and the Rev. Pastor Fisch, of Paris, respectively President and Vice-President of the Conference, and the Rev. Pastors Vallette, Montandon, and G. Monod, of Paris, signed the address in the name of the assembled pastors. The appeal is issued on behalf of the *National Freedmen's Relief Association*, New York, and the *Western Freedmen's Aid Society*, Cincinnati.\*

The same Conference adopted an address to the Pastors and Ministers of the Gospel,

\* We exceedingly regret our inability to insert a translation of this address, on account of the unusual pressure upon our space this month. —(Ed. A.S.R.)

of all denominations, in the United States, on the subject of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, a copy of which was sent to the editors of the various religious newspapers.\*

M. de Montalembert has just issued an admirable pamphlet of 160 pages, entitled *The Victory of the North in the United States*. It is an eloquent vindication of the course of the Federal Government.†

On the 1st of May, M. Rouher communicated to the *Corps Legislatif* the despatch of M. Drouyn de l'Huys to the American Ambassador in Paris, expressing the sympathy of the French Government with that of the United States upon the assassination of President Lincoln. The Government made a similar communication to the Senate.

HAITI. — The President of Haiti, on opening the Chambers recently, delivered an address, in which he dwells with satisfaction upon the general progress of the country. Public instruction has received fresh developments. A small theological college, where superior education is imparted, has been founded at Port-au-Prince. Two other scholastic establishments have also been created, which promise happy results. One is directed by the Brothers of Christian Instruction; the other by the Sisters of the Order of St. Joseph de Cluny. These two institutions have about 300 scholars. Other educational establishments have been augmented to the number of eighteen; and the number of scholars from 14,600 has been increased to 15,697. In Europe eighteen Haitians are students in the colleges at Paris and Versailles, and twenty are placed in a theological college.

*Le Moniteur Haitien* contains an article expressing the public grief at the assassination of President Lincoln, and describing the marks of respect which were paid to the memory of the martyred chief magistrate by the Senate and Chamber of Representatives and the citizens generally. The article concludes as follows: "These manifestations of sympathy for the great Republic prove that the race to which we belong know how to evince their gratitude towards those men who have had the courage to defend their cause. Abraham Lincoln has fallen, it is true, by the hand of an assassin, but the principles which he upheld are honourable, and his all-glorious death will elevate him in the eyes of the world."

\* We exceedingly regret our inability to insert a translation of this address, on account of the unusual pressure upon our space this month.—(Ed. A.S.R.)

† We are compelled to reserve our criticism of this pamphlet.—(Ed. A.S.R.)

ITALY.—The following is the address of the Italian Chamber to the President of the United-States' Congress:

"TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

"SIR,—The news of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln has profoundly moved and afflicted the Chamber of Deputies of the Italian Parliament. All the political parties of which that Chamber is composed have joined with one voice in denouncing this crime, and in expressing regret and sympathy for the illustrious victim and the free people of whom he was the worthy chief. The Chamber has unanimously resolved to cover its flag with crape for three days in token of mourning, and it has requested me to make known to you, by a special message, that its grief is that of Italy and all the friends of liberty and civilization. The news of the attempt upon Mr. Seward has aroused the same sentiment. In fulfilling, with sad alacrity, the mission entrusted to me, I beg you, Sir, to accept the expression of my sympathy and consideration.

"CASSINIS, President of the Chamber of Deputies."

PRUSSIA.—On the 2nd of May an address of sympathy from the Chamber of Deputies, on the occasion of the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, was presented to the American Minister at Berlin.

SPAIN.—On the 1st May ultimo, upon the motion of the President, the Chamber of Representatives of the Cortes unanimously agreed to a resolution expressive of their sympathy with the American people at the assassination of Mr. Lincoln. On the 3rd the Senate adopted a similar resolution.

On the 21st, the second meeting of the Spanish Abolitionist Society was held in Madrid. In the absence of Don S. Olazaga, who was in Italy, the chair was taken by the Marquis de Albaida, second Vice-President. The meeting decided unanimously that the Society should adopt as its motto, "Immediate, not gradual emancipation." A form of circular was passed, embodying this as the fundamental principle of the Society; urging the necessity of at once abolishing Slavery, but leaving the mode for future consideration. It also decided to issue, without delay, an anti-slavery paper, to be entitled *El Abolicionista Espanol, Organo de la Sociedad de Madrid de este nombre*. A copy of these resolutions, and of the circular, was ordered to be forwarded to the various Anti-Slavery societies in England, France, and the United States.

It is rumoured that Marshal O'Donnell, by way of giving a practical proof of his



liberalism, intends to abolish Slavery in the Spanish colonies. Brazil would then be the only Christian nation owning slaves.

General Lersundi is designated as the new Captain-General of Cuba, in place of General Dulce. The *Espiritu Publico* says, "To no better hands can the government of our Antilles be delegated."

UNITED STATES.—THE WAR.—We rejoice to have to record the final events of the war. Our last summary left Lee and his army under parole, and disbanded after their defeat before Richmond, and Sherman in hot pursuit of General Joseph E. Johnston. On the 18th of April he came up with the latter at Durham's Station, North Carolina, when Johnston stipulated for terms of surrender for himself and the remaining corps of the rebel army. A memorandum of agreement was at once entered into between them; but on reaching the President, in Council, it was immediately repudiated, on the ground that Sherman had exceeded his authority; that the agreement practically acknowledged the Confederacy re-established, the Confederate-States' Government superseding those created on the one-tenth principle, and of Western Virginia; permitted the continuance of Slavery; furnished excuses for burdening the country with the Confederate debt; nullified the confiscation laws; and granted a general amnesty to the Confederate people;—in fact, concluded terms which had been repeatedly rejected by Mr. Lincoln; relieved the Confederates of the pressure of the victorious Federal armies, and left them in a condition to renew the contest for the overthrow of the United-States' Government whenever their strength might be recruited, and the opportunity offer. Upon the termination of the meeting peremptory orders were sent to General Sherman to resume hostilities immediately, and to hereafter hold no conference with the enemy, excepting for the capitulation of his armies, or upon subjects of a purely military nature.

General Grant arrived at Raleigh on the 24th, and delivered to Sherman the disapproval of the Government of his agreement with Johnston.

Notice of the decision of the Government for a termination of the armistice was immediately sent to Johnston, together with the information that civil matters could not be entertained in conventions between military commanders.

Under these circumstances, on the 26th Johnston surrendered the forces under his command to Sherman, embracing all from Raleigh to the Chattahoochee, on the basis agreed on between Grant and Lee, for the army of Northern Virginia. Previous to Sherman's truce Stoneman's command was

successfully operating against the Confederates in Western North Carolina and South-Western Virginia.

On the 4th May, General Dick Taylor surrendered to General Canby, on the same terms as Lee.

On the 26th, Kirby Smith's army also surrendered to the same General, his force including all the troops in the trans-Mississippi department, with their material of war. With Kirby Smith's surrender, the last remnant of the rebel army disappeared, and the war terminated.

*Miscellaneous.*—Mr. Seward has recovered from the effects of the murderous assault made upon him, and is taking his usual active part in public affairs.

The remains of Mr. Lincoln reached Springfield, Illinois, on the 3rd May, after a funeral procession through the States, from Washington, nothing short of triumphal, and were deposited in the Capitol, whence they were next day transferred to their final resting-place.

Immediately upon the news of Lee's defeat before Richmond reaching Jefferson Davis, he fled with his family and a large escort, and with a considerable sum in gold, intending, it was supposed, to make his escape by one of the Southern ports, either to Texas or to Cuba. Being hotly pursued by General Wilson, and a large reward offered for his apprehension, and being gradually abandoned by his escort, who distributed amongst themselves the treasure they were conveying, and finding further flight no longer possible, he stopped at Irwinsville, Georgia, apparently undecided, and, on the 10th May, was overtaken at that place, and captured, with his wife and family, Confederate Postmaster Ryan, and others. Irwinsville is seventy-five miles south-east of Macon. Mr. Davis attempted to escape into the swamps, but did not succeed. The party were at once placed under escort, and Mr. Davis was finally incarcerated in Fortress Monroe, where he will remain until his trial for treason takes place, a true bill having been found against him. It is said, that with a view to his ultimate advantage, President Johnson is endeavouring to put off the day of trial to as late a date as possible.

Mr. Johnson has discharged all persons sentenced by military tribunals to imprisonment during the war, and issued a proclamation granting an amnesty, and the restoration of the rights of property—excepting slaves, and except in cases where legal proceedings under the confiscation laws have been instituted—to persons engaged in the rebellion, conditionally upon their taking an oath to support the Government and all laws and all proclamations issued during the rebellion in reference to



emancipation. The following classes are excluded: The rebel civil and diplomatic officers; foreign and domestic agents; those persons who resigned Congressional, judicial, military and naval positions to aid the rebellion; officers of the rebel army above the rank of colonel, and of the navy above that of lieutenant; those below who were educated at West Point or the Naval Academy; all who treated prisoners otherwise than as prisoners of war; governors of States; persons who left the national lines to aid the rebellion; all pirates, border raiders, and persons who voluntarily participated in the rebellion, whose taxable property exceeds 20,000 dollars. Those comprised in the excluded classes desiring to obtain the benefit of the amnesty must make a special application to the President for pardon, when such clemency will be liberally extended to them as may be consistent with the facts of the case and the peace and dignity of the United States.

President Johnson has appointed Holden provisional governor of North Carolina, and has authorised him to call a reconstruction convention, the delegates of which are to be chosen by loyal persons only. The convention will put the civil machinery in motion, and is empowered to prescribe the qualifications of the electors, and the eligibility of any person to hold state offices, or it may pass the question for decision to the legislature meeting under the new arrangements.

The President directs the members of the cabinet to enforce the laws of their different departments, and restore the national authority within North Carolina.

Wm. Lloyd Garrison has resigned office as President of the *American Anti-Slavery Society*, which he had held since he founded it, and is succeeded by Wendell Phillips. A personal question appears to have prevented Mr. Garrison from resuming the office, into which he was again voted after his resignation. The Society will continue its labours, and the *National Anti-Slavery Standard* will also be published as heretofore, but with Parker Pillsbury as Editor.

Wendell Phillips declares that reconstruction without negro suffrage is a surrender to the rebels, and a fraud upon the North. He urges that repudiation of the war debt should be declared; and that every man supporting the reconstruction scheme of President Johnson for North Carolina is a sycophant of Davis'.

Mr. Sumner has addressed a letter to the coloured people of North Carolina, telling them to insist on all the rights and privileges of citizens, and declaring that whoever robs them of those rights is a usurper and an impostor.

A delegation from the negroes in Ken-

tucky have applied to the Bureau of Freedmen in Washington for advice and assistance in obtaining work and the means of support. They represent that the whites in their State refuse to employ them in any capacity whatever. They waited upon President Johnson, and petitioned that martial law in Kentucky might be continued, and General Palmer granted powers sufficient for their protection. Both requests are asserted to have been conceded.

At a meeting of the Emancipation League in Tremont Temple, Boston, held the 28th May, strong speeches were made by Judge Kelley, of Philadelphia, Senator Wilson, ex-Governor Boutwell, and Wendell Phillips. The right of allowing every loyal man to vote, irrespective of colour, was forcibly advocated. The following was among the resolutions adopted:

"Resolved—That since the denial of right to black men was the cause of the disruption of the Union, their enfranchisement and full equality before the law must be the corner-stone of its reconstruction."

The meeting was very large, and unanimously emphatic in favour of extending the right of suffrage to all the loyal people of the South.

In the Senate of the Tennessee Legislature a Bill has been passed defining the qualification of a voter. He must be a white male citizen, twenty-one years of age. It excludes from free suffrage all over twenty-one who aided the rebellion.

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## PARLIAMENTARY RECORD.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

(Tuesday, 13th June.)

#### THE ABERDEEN ACT.

LORD BROUGHAM presented a petition from the Committee of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society*, praying for the repeal of the Aberdeen Act. His lordship stated that the Act had proved most offensive to the Government and people of Brazil, and had prevented all the steps taken by the friends of the emancipation of slaves. It had been most reluctantly passed in 1845 by the Lords, who felt its extreme rigour, and was agreed to by their lordships only on account of the necessity of strong measures to suppress the slave-trade. Lord Aberdeen had, both in Parliament and in a written and formal communication to the Brazilian Government, pledged himself that it should be repealed if either the slave-trade were extinguished, or the Brazilian Government renewed the treaty of 1826. Now the slave-trade had entirely ceased, and after thirteen years' experience there was not the least chance of its being removed. All the authorities were against it; the Emperor himself is most decidedly for its extinction; and all his ministers, as well as the people generally, as the results of the elections proved. Therefore the

pledge given ought to be redeemed by the repeal of the Act, which seriously affected all the efforts by the Society and others, to promote negro emancipation, and was most hurtful to the great and valuable trade of this country with Brazil. The petition was, by the rules of the House, only received as that of the persons signing it. These were headed by the highly-respected President of the Society, Mr. Samuel Gurney, M.P., on behalf of the Committee.

(Monday, 19th June.)

#### THE SLAVE-TRADE.

LORD BROUGHAM asked the Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether the supplementary Papers on the Slave-trade would shortly be produced. He was happy to find that there was a great change going on in the sentiments of the people of Spain with regard to the slave-trade, and that an Anti-slavery Society had actually been formed at Madrid.

EARL RUSSELL said the Slave-trade Papers were very voluminous, and it would take ten or twelve days longer to prepare them. They would, however, be laid on the table of both Houses as soon as possible. He thought it right to state, that, not only in Spain but in Cuba, there was a stronger disposition than he ever remembered to concur in measures for the effectual suppression of the slave-trade. There had been a very great change in this respect in Cuba in the last five years, and in the United States. The fitting-out of slave-vessels in New York had been entirely put a stop to, and those who were found guilty of participating in slave-trade ventures were punished with the utmost severity by the Government of the United States, which was willing to co-operate with Her Majesty's Government in measures with a view to effectually put down the trade; and there was now a hope that the trade would be effectually abolished.

LORD BROUGHAM said nothing could be more admirable than the recent conduct of the United States of late on every subject connected with Slavery and the slave-trade. They had acquiesced in the right of search, and in other ways had evinced their sincere desire to put down this trade. He took the present opportunity of correcting an unfounded statement circulated in this country, and also, he believed, in part of the Northern States of America, that he had sympathized with the slaveholding and slave-mongering States of the South in their rebellion. He never, by word or deed, expressed the slightest sympathy with them.

#### THE AMNESTY PROCLAMATION.

WE place on record the text of the Amnesty Proclamation issued by President Johnson, and referred to in our Summary. BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

##### A PROCLAMATION.

"Whereas, the President of the United States, on the 8th day of December, A.D. Eighteen hundred and Sixty-three, did, with the object to suppress the existing rebellion, to induce all persons to return to their loyalty, and to restore the authority of the United States, issue proclama-

tions offering amnesty and pardon to certain persons who had, directly or by implication, participated in the said rebellion, and

"Whereas, many persons who had so engaged in said rebellion have since the issuance of said proclamation failed or neglected to take the benefits offered thereby; and

"Whereas, many persons who have been justly deprived of all claim to amnesty and pardon thereunder by reason of their participation directly or by implication in the said rebellion, and continued hostility to the Government of the United States since the date of said proclamation, now desire to apply for and obtain amnesty and pardon.

"To the end, therefore, that the authority of the Government of the United States may be restored, and that peace, order, and freedom may be established, I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do proclaim and declare that I hereby grant to all persons who have directly or indirectly participated in the existing rebellion, except as hereinafter excepted, amnesty and pardon, with restoration of all rights of property, except as to slaves, and except in cases where legal proceedings under the laws of the United States providing for the confiscation of property of persons engaged in rebellion have been instituted, but on the condition, nevertheless, that every such person shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation, and thenceforward keep and maintain said oath inviolate, and which oath shall be registered for permanent preservation, and shall be of the tenor and effect following to wit:—

"I, —, do solemnly swear or affirm, in presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Union of the States thereunder, and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all laws and proclamations which have been made during the existing rebellion with reference to the emancipation of slaves, so help me God."

"The following classes of persons are excepted from the benefits of this proclamation:—

"First—All who are, or shall have been, pretended civil or diplomatic officers, or otherwise, domestic or foreign agents of the pretended Confederate Government.

"Second—All who left judicial stations, under the United States, to aid the rebellion.

"Third—All who shall have been military or naval officers of the said pretended Confederate Government above the rank of colonel in the army or lieutenant in the navy.

"Fourth—All who left seats in the Congress of the United States to aid the rebellion.

"Fifth—All who resigned or tendered resignations of their commissions in the army or navy of the United States to evade duty in resisting the rebellion.

"Sixth—All who have engaged in any way in treating otherwise than lawfully as prisoners of war persons found in the United-States' service as officers, soldiers, seamen, or in other capacities.

"Seventh—All persons who have been or are absentees from the United States for the purpose of aiding the rebellion.

"Eighth—All military and naval officers in

the rebel service who were educated by the Government in the Military Academy at West Point or the United-States' Naval Academy.

"Ninth—All persons who held the pretended offices of governors of States in insurrection against the United States.

"Tenth—All persons who left their homes within the jurisdiction and protection of the United States, and passed beyond the Federal military lines into the so-called Confederate States for the purpose of aiding the rebellion.

"Eleventh—All persons who have been engaged in the destruction of the commerce of the United States upon the high seas, and all persons who have made raids into the United States from Canada, or been engaged in destroying the commerce of the United States upon the lakes and rivers that separate the British provinces from the United States.

"Twelfth—All persons who at the time when they seek to obtain the benefits hereof by taking the oath herein prescribed, are in military, naval, or civil confinement or custody, or under bonds of the civil, military, or naval authorities or agents of the United States, as prisoners of war, or persons detained for offences of any kind, either before or after conviction.

"Thirteenth—All persons who have voluntarily participated in said rebellion, and the estimated value of whose taxable property is over 20,000 dollars.

"Fourteenth—All persons who have taken the oath of amnesty, as prescribed in the President's proclamation of December 8, A.D. 1863, or an oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States since the date of said proclamation, and who have not thenceforward kept and maintained the same inviolate—provided that special application may be made to the President for pardon by any person belonging to the excepted classes, and such clemency will be as liberally extended as may be consistent with the facts of the case and the peace and dignity of the United States.

"The Secretary of State will establish rules and regulations for administering and recording the said Amnesty Oath, so as to ensure its benefit to the people and guard the Government against fraud.

"In testimony whereof I have here unto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the City of Washington, the Twentieth day of May, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-five, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-ninth.

"[L.S.]

ANDREW JOHNSON.

"By the President—

"WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State."

#### ADDRESSES ON THE ASSASSINATION OF MR. LINCOLN.

WE intended recording the various addresses which have been adopted at public meetings and by public bodies in our own country and elsewhere, on the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, but have been compelled to renounce the task owing to their

multiplicity. We question whether any event has ever given rise to such a demonstration of spontaneous public sentiment as the crime of Wilkes Booth has evoked; a demonstration honourable to the people who have made it, as a testimony to the virtues of the great ruler whom that crime so suddenly removed from the sphere of his labours, and of their appreciation of his emancipation policy. Whilst we think it desirable, however, to abstain from recording more than a very few of the most prominent, we may state that there has probably not been one city, town, or place of any note; nor a corporation of any importance, nor a Society of any mark, that has not passed, in public meeting, or at an assembly of its members, addresses and resolutions conveying an expression of horror at the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, and of sympathy with the American people. Men of all parties, and of all ranks and conditions, have united in this truly national demonstration. The circumstance possesses an historical importance, and this is our justification and our plea, for devoting a portion of our space to so interesting a record.

#### ADDRESSES.

(From London Bankers.)

"Bank of England, May 5.

"SIR,—I have the honour to transmit herewith an address which has been signed by upwards of 200 of the most eminent merchants and bankers of this city, which it gives me great pleasure to be the medium of communicating to your Excellency.

"I beg leave to remain, with great respect,  
Your obedient servant,

"H. L. HOLLAND, Governor.

"To his Excellency the Hon. C. F. Adams, &c

"TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE HON. C. F. ADAMS,  
MINISTER OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, LONDON.

"We, the undersigned merchants, bankers, and traders of the City of London, are anxious to express to you, as the representative of the United States of America, the horror and indignation with which we have heard of the assassination of the late President, Mr. Lincoln. This event, which, under any circumstances, would have called forth these feelings, seems to do so more strongly at this time when so much appeared to depend upon Mr. Lincoln's well-known character for integrity, and his kindly desire of conciliation in the great task to which he was about to address himself, of restoring peace and concord in that great country over the councils of which he presided.

"We also desire to express our deep and heartfelt sympathy in the irreparable loss which his family have sustained, and we beg you will convey to them the assurance of this feeling, which we believe to exist universally throughout this country."



"Legation of the United States, London, May 5.

"SIR,—On behalf of his Excellency, Mr. Adams, I have the honour to acknowledge the reception of your note of this date, and to state that he will have much pleasure in forwarding to his Government this day the address from the merchants and bankers of London which accompanied it.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

"BENJAMIN MORAN, Secretary of Legation.

"Mr. H. L. Holland, Governor of the Bank of England."

(From the Greek Community of London.)

"We the undersigned merchants and others of the Greek race, resident in London, have heard with the profoundest regret of the cruel assassination of Abraham Lincoln, the President of your great Republic. When we ourselves were struggling for our freedom against our oppressors no nation was more generous in its sympathy for our cause than the great free Republic of the West: gratitude, therefore, as well as every feeling of humanity, calls upon us to express to your Excellency, and through you to the people which you so worthily represent, the intense feelings of horror and abhorrence with which we have heard of the unprovoked and unprecedented crime, and of our sincere and heartfelt wishes and prayers for the future well-being and prosperity of your great and glorious people." The document bears the signatures of A. A. Ralli, firm of A. Ralli and Co.; Theodore Ralli, firm of T. and J. Ralli; J. Diberoglue, of the firm of G. J. Cavafy and Co; G. P. Lascaridi, and 130 others.

(From Mauritian Coloured Men.)

"An Address of Mauritian Coloured Men to the American Nation.—To his Excellency Mr Adams, American Ambassador of the United States.

"SIR,—We, the undersigned Mauritian coloured gentlemen, resident in London, assembled in Committee, have resolved to send this address to the representative of the American nation in England, as the tribute of our warm admiration for the patriotic deeds of the chief American magistrate, whose assassination has horrified the civilized world.

"We coloured men, natives of the Mauritius, from the beginning of your dreadful civil war, have placed an implicit faith in all those liberal views of the late Mr. A. Lincoln's government, acting as barriers against the lawless attempts of a slaveholding community to destroy the glorious, free, and united Republic of Washington.

"Be assured, Sir, that by expressing our abhorrence of the murder of Mr. A. Lincoln, we echo the opinions of our coloured brethren in the Mauritius. The fiend-like assassin who cruelly butchered your late illustrious President, at the time when the Union armies were successful everywhere, and the slave empire was crumbling to the dust, has not only deprived the United States of one of its noblest citizens, of one of its most virtuous patriots, but also the suffering and enslaved coloured race living in abjectness in your country of their staunch protector.

"We beg, Sir, that you will convey to the authorities of your great and free Republic the expressions of our sentiments of admiration for the chivalrous conduct of your late lamented and much regretted President in the hour of triumph, and of our feelings of horror and disgust on hearing of his assassination.

We subscribe ourselves, yours obediently,

"POLYXENES VAUDAGNE; EMILE VAUDAGNE;  
T. LIONEL YENKINS; EUGENE SERRET;  
ARTHUR BONIER; — HERMANS; — DU-  
BOIS, &c.

(Covent Garden Theatrical Fund.)

"THAT this honourable corporation, the Covent-garden Theatrical Fund, desires to give utterance to the feelings of grief and horror with which it has received the fearful intelligence of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and to convey to his sorrowing widow and the American people its profound condolence and sympathy, together with the expression of its sad and solemn regret that the unnatural parricide who deprived the father of his country of existence, and the wife of his bosom of her loved protector, should in any the slightest way have been connected with the profession this corporation represents, whose honour and loyalty have ever been its most cherished pride."

(Government Correspondence.)

"Foreign Office, April 28, 1865.

SIR,—It is impossible to describe the sentiments of horror and indignation which have been inspired by the sad intelligence from Washington. Her Majesty has directed me to express her sincere condolence with the families of the late President and of Mr. Seward under their present afflictions.

"It is my duty to request that you will convey to the Government of the United States the assurance that the Government, the Parliament, and the nation, are affected by a unanimous feeling of abhorrence of the criminals guilty of these cowardly and atrocious crimes, and sympathy for the Government and people of the United States, thus deprived of those to whom they looked for authority in administration and wisdom in council.

"Notice has been given in both Houses of addresses to be moved by Ministers of the Crown, expressing, in a formal shape, the sentiments of sorrow and indignation felt by Parliament on this sad occasion.

"I am, &c.,

(Signed) "RUSSELL."

"P.S.—You are at liberty to give a copy of this despatch to Mr. Seward or the Acting Secretary of State. "R."

"Foreign Office, May 6, 1865.

"SIR,—In pursuance of the notice which, as I informed you in my despatch of the 28th ultimo, had been given by her Majesty's Ministers in both Houses of Parliament, I moved in the House of Lords on Monday last the address to the Queen, of which I send you a copy. The motion was seconded by Lord Derby, and agreed to *nemine dissente*. In the absence of Viscount Palmerston, who, to his great regret, was prevented by illness from being present on the

occasion, Sir George Grey, her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, moved a similar address in the House of Commons, which motion was seconded by Mr. Disraeli, and was likewise unanimously agreed to.

"The Queen has been pleased to return to both Houses the most gracious answer, of which I inclose a copy.

"In giving a copy of this despatch and of its inclosures to the Acting Secretary of State of the United States, you will say to him that these addresses of the two Houses of Parliament express the sentiments of the whole British nation on the deplorable assassination of the late President of the United States.

"I am, &c.

(Signed)

"RUSSELL."

Mr. Adams, on 7th June, transmitted the reply of Mr. Hunter, the United-States' Acting Secretary of State, to the despatches of Earl Russell :

"Department of State, Washington May 22, 1865.

"SIR,—The Hon. Sir Frederick W. A. Bruce has recently left with me a copy of a despatch of the 6th instant, addressed to him by Earl Russell, transmitting a copy of an address adopted in the House of Lords and in the House of Commons, conveying to her Majesty the Queen the expression of the deep sorrow and indignation with which those Houses had learned the assassination of the late President of the United States; and praying that her Majesty, in communicating her own sentiments on this deplorable event to the Government of the United States, would also be graciously pleased to express on their part their abhorrence of the crime, and their sympathy with the Government and people of the United States.

"The despatch is also accompanied by a copy of the Queen's answer to the address, in which her Majesty expressed her entire concurrence in the spirit thereof.

"Sir Frederick Bruce, in giving me a copy of the communication, has informed me that those addresses of the two Houses of Parliament express the sentiments of the whole British nation on the deplorable event.

"This communication, conveying to the Government and people of the United States such emphatic and earnest manifestations of friendship and sympathy from a great and kindred nation, is received with deep sensibility and grateful appreciation.

"You will be so good as to make this known to the British Government, by leaving with Earl Russell a copy of this despatch.

"I am, &c.,

(Signed) "W. HUNTER, Acting Secretary."

(The Liberal French Press.)

"THE following is a translation of the address of the Press of Paris to President Johnson on the death of Mr. Lincoln :

"M. le President,—The constitution of your country has for ever placed the American democracy beyond attempts directed against per-

sons. Where liberty reigns, where the law alone governs, the heads of the State may fall without in the least disturbing or even threatening institutions. Sorrow and indignation may seize the people, but fear cannot approach them. We know that such is the happy position created for the people of the United States by their institutions. Permit us, however, to express the pain which we feel at the death of the citizen who has just been struck down. Abraham Lincoln will be regretted, as he was admired, by the democracy of France. What nobler model, in truth, than this great man of the people—this labourer raised from the humblest rank to the highest office in his country, and continuing the faithful guardian of its laws! Inform the people of the Union, M. le President, that we join with them in their mourning as we share with them in their hopes. Slavery is dead, liberty will never perish: the triumph of the great Republic is assured."

"The address is signed by the *Temps*, the *Opinion Nationale*, the *Avenir Nationale*, and the *Siecle*, M. Girardin on behalf of *La Presse*, says that he was not asked to join in the address, and demands a public explanation from his confreres of the press.

(The United States' Citizens of Hamburg.)

"HAMBURG, MAY 4.—In conformity with an advertisement in the local papers convening a public meeting of the United-States' citizens residing in this city, to give expression to their feelings on the late atrocious tragedies at Washington, they assembled yesterday very numerous at the United-States' Consulate, Mr. J. R. McDonald, the United States' Vice-consul in the chair, when, after several eloquent speeches had been delivered, the following resolutions were moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to: 'Resolved—That as it has pleased our Almighty Father to suffer our beloved President Abraham Lincoln's useful and honourable career to be brought suddenly to a close, we, the undersigned citizens of the United States, temporarily removed from our Transatlantic homes, have assembled to give expression to the overpowering sorrow and regret with which we received the intelligence of that melancholy event. God in His infinite mercy permitted him to live long enough to impress us with the deepest and most indelible sense of his many virtues, and in our hearts he will never die. His memory will remain to us, and with the Father of our country he will jointly occupy the post of honour as the first in the hearts of his fellow citizens.' 'Resolved—That our chairman, Jas. R. McDonald, the United-States' Vice-consul at Hamburg, be requested to send a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of State, and convey to Mrs. Lincoln the expression of our deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolence with her on her irreparable loss.—Hamburg' May 3, 1865. (Follow the signatures.)"

"Last evening, in the sitting of the *Bürger-schaft*, on the motion of Mr. A. Sanders, seconded by Mr. G. A. Schoen, the following resolution was put and unanimously carried:

"In the firm conviction that the Senate will not fail to give official expression to the general feeling of indignation and sorrow caused by the abominable assassination of the President of the United States, this assembly requests the Senate to mention specially that the *Bürger-schaft* of Hamburg unanimously entertains the most lively sympathy with the United States on their melancholy loss."

### THE PROSPECTS OF THE NEGROES.

THE probable position of the negroes in the United States, now that peace is re-established, occupies the attention of the *Paris Opinion Nationale*, which considers as exaggerated the fears entertained by many persons that the settlement of so many millions of unemployed blacks must be attended with great difficulty, if not danger. Our contemporary expresses itself in these terms:

"The blacks are said to be lazy: for them liberty will be simply liberty to do nothing, and they will become a national trouble and a burden without compensation. We cannot share in so sweeping an opinion. The blacks are capable, under a *régime* of liberty, of performing regular and profitable work; they have other wants besides those of the *far niente* order; and these other wants, spontaneously and of necessity developed by contact with the active life of men of other races, will, as we cannot doubt, stimulate the black to remarkable exertion of productive forces. We are not uttering any random opinion; we can point to the living proofs of what we advance. There exists, as every one knows, and even in the vicinity of the United States, a country in which the blacks, entirely their own masters, have formed, during two-thirds of a century, an independent State. If there is a country on the earth where they are permitted to wholly give themselves up to their natural instincts, it is beyond contradiction the island of Hayti. But what has actually happened in this negro Republic? Let figures answer the question. The Haytian negroes exported in 1821, twenty-one million pounds of coffee, six millions and a half pounds of logwood, and 130,000 feet of mahogany. But in 1863 they furnished to foreign merchants seventy-one million pounds of coffee, one hundred and sixteen million pounds of logwood, and two million feet of mahogany. These facts are unanswerable, and we might add a host of others drawn from the history of the black race in the United States themselves. The demonstration will become much more complete yet, if we reflect that the Haytian blacks are not stimulated, like those in the United States, by the sight of the most active civilization in their world; that they lack means of communication and carriage, and that their markets and outlets are comparatively very limited."

### Anti-Slavery Reporter.

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1865.

### ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

At a General Meeting of the Committee of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society*, held at No. 27 New Broad Street, on Friday, May 5th, the following resolution was unanimously adopted, and the Secretary was instructed to forward a copy of the same to the Hon. C. F. Adams, for transmission to the President of the United States, and a second copy for Mrs. Lincoln, and to take steps to procure its insertion in the daily papers.

#### RESOLUTION.

"The Committee desire to record the feelings of dismay and sorrow with which they have heard of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States of America, and the murderous attempt upon the life of his colleague the Hon. W. H. Seward. While they regard these crimes as unparalleled in atrocity, deserving, as indeed they have justly excited, universal reprobation, they consider that the peculiar circumstances under which they were perpetrated remove them out of the category of ordinary crimes, and give them a deplorable prominence, as the natural manifestations of the execrable system of Slavery, directed against the exponents of a policy of freedom.

"The Committee deem it especially their duty to bear their testimony in appreciation of the high qualities which distinguished Abraham Lincoln, as the ruler of a great people; who, during a season of unprecedented difficulty, consistently adhered to principles which have happily been accepted by the nation, and in their application will secure the liberty of four millions of our fellow-creatures, held oppressed and degraded in the very worst form of bondage. As the emancipator of the slaves in the United States, Abraham Lincoln is entitled to the gratitude of all mankind.

"The Committee, in condoling with the people of the United States, on the occasion of the signal loss they have sustained in the sudden removal of their late President, would express the confident hope that they will remain steadfast to the policy of emancipation, to the steady development of which his life was consecrated, and to which he fell a martyr, and will strengthen the hands of his successor to pursue the same noble course. They also fervently trust, that in the high and re-



sponsible position which Andrew Johnson, now President, has been called to fill he may be guided by the wisdom which cometh from above; that he may be endowed with the forbearance which tempereth justice with mercy, and be spared to bring to a happy and peaceful consummation the work Abraham Lincoln began.

"The Committee would further express their profound sympathy with the family of Abraham Lincoln, under the bereavement which bows them down with grief. At such a solemn time, they will derive consolation from the world-wide manifestation of sorrow and regret which the violent death of him who was their head has elicited; and will be strengthened to bear up against this grievous calamity, and be cheered by the reflection that he and his descendants will bear an honoured name, which the ever-increasing multitudes of a once down-trodden race will hold enshrined in their hearts to be transmitted to remotest posterity as that of one of the greatest benefactors of mankind."

(Signed)

SAMUEL GURNEY, *President.*

EDMUND STURGE, *Chairman of Committee.*

L. A. CHAMEROVZOV, *Secretary.*

#### THE ABERDEEN ACT.

SUBJOINED is the text of a Memorial from the Committee of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society*, on the subject of the Aberdeen Act, which was presented to Viscount Palmerston on the 30th June ultimo:

To the Right Honourable VISCOUNT PALMERSTON, First Lord of the Treasury, &c. :-

MY LORD,—The Committee of the *British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society* beg respectfully to submit for your consideration a few remarks upon the subject of the cessation of the African slave-trade to Brazil, and upon the statute 8th & 9th Victoria, cap. 122, more commonly known as the Aberdeen Act. They venture to do so, entirely from a conviction that the existence of it is a source of irritation which operates unfavourably upon the anti-slavery cause in Brazil.

It may not be inappropriate to specify here, that the object of the said Act was to secure the extinction of the African slave-trade to Brazilian ports, by authorizing the High Court of Admiralty and the Courts of Vice-Admiralty to exercise jurisdiction over vessels captured whilst engaged, or on suspicion of being engaged, in carrying on the slave-trade: wherefore the Fifth, or Indemnity Clause of that Act, was framed so as to

enable British cruisers to enter Brazilian waters, and seize and carry off any vessels suspected of being engaged in the illicit traffic in African slaves.

It seems further necessary, as explanatory of the impression now entertained, to remind your Lordship, that the Right Honourable the Earl of Aberdeen did not propose the passing of this Act without considerable misgiving, and that many leading statesmen were decidedly averse to it. It was admitted on all hands to be an extreme measure, while some did not hesitate to condemn it as an unjustifiable one. It was, however, urged by the Government as a necessary procedure, as it was intended to supplement the Convention of 1826, establishing Mixed-Commission Courts, which the Brazilian Government refused to renew, or, in lieu thereof to enter into a slave-trade treaty with Great Britain.

The Earl of Aberdeen, however, in adopting the measure, did not, it is certain, intend it to be permanent, as is manifest from the following extract from his despatch to Mr. Hamilton, then British Minister at Rio de Janeiro, under date of the 2nd July 1845:—

"Her Majesty's Government, however, are far from wishing this mode of adjudicating those vessels to be permanent.

"They will be ready, so soon as any measures of the Brazilian Government shall enable them to do so, to recommend to Parliament to repeal the Bill now about to be brought forward; but whilst the present state of things continues, and until either the slave-trade of Brazil shall have entirely ceased, or the Brazilian Government shall have entered into an engagement with Great Britain jointly to carry into execution the declared intention of the parties of the Convention of 1826, that course will not be open to them."

It is not the province of the Committee to comment upon the refusal of the Brazilian Government of that day to renew the Convention of 1826; but they would observe, that Conventions and Treaties have had little appreciable influence in suppressing the slave-trade, as the history of that illicit traffic shews; and that their very expensive adjuncts, the Mixed-Commission Courts, have been practically useless. The records of those Courts will shew, that in the course of many years comparatively few cases were brought before them for adjudication, the great majority of condemnations having taken place in the various Vice-Admiralty Courts. Experience has proved, that the temptation of acquiring enormous gains by slave-trading has stimulated the slave-traders to incur any amount of risk in pursuit of their

object; and that the same love of gain extended its demoralizing influence even amongst the classes who alone possess the power of carrying out Treaty obligations. For this dereliction of duty no excuse can in any case be offered; and if the Committee refer to the fact at all, it is with the view to shew, that the remedy for so deplorable a state of things is to be found only in the honest purpose of the local Government to suppress the slave-trade, by a vigorous prosecution of the guilty parties.

It is not denied, that if the slave-trade to Cuba is still carried on to a most lamentable extent, in defiance of our Treaties with Spain for its suppression, it is due to the culpable connivance of the local authorities, resulting from the laxity of the Spanish Government itself. The same remark applies to the prosecution of the slave-trade from the Mozambique Channel, and from Portuguese ports on the East Coast of Africa, from which places the Portuguese Government professes an inability to extirpate it, because of the alleged impracticability of counteracting—except by a total change in its system of colonial government—the corrupting influences of the slave-traders, the masters of the local finance council, and therefore the masters of the situation.

On the other hand, the total extinction of the African slave-trade from the Portuguese provinces of the West Coast of Africa, is attributable entirely to the vigorous action of the local authorities; and it is not attempted to be denied, that a similar result has been accomplished in Brazil, through the determination of the Brazilian Government and its subordinates to put down the African slave-trade, and to punish the slave-traders.

In further illustration of these facts, the Committee would refer to the impunity with which slavers were fitted out in United-States' ports, and to the notorious abuse of the United-States' flag to cover slave-trading operations, so long as pro-slavery influences predominated at Washington, nullifying the States' laws against slave-trading, and baffling every effort to obtain a treaty granting a limited right of search. From the moment, however, that Mr. Lincoln and his Cabinet evinced a determination to enforce the laws against slave-trading, and to deal summarily with delinquents, no slave-vessels have been equipped in, nor have issued from, any American port under the control of the United-States' Government, whilst the conclusion with it of the limited right of search Slave-trade Treaty has armed the British Government with additional power for the suppression of the African slave-trade on the high seas.

The Committee believe it is demonstrable, that the cessation of the African slave-trade to Brazil—which is an admitted fact, and therefore needs no further comment—is due to the determination of the Brazilian Government and people to put it down; and the Committee can quote no better authority on the question of the total extinction of the traffic than Mr. Christie, late British Minister at Rio de Janeiro, who asserts in his dispatch, July 26th, 1863, that “there is no possibility of the revival of the Brazilian slave-trade.”

Under these circumstances, and strengthened by this emphatic declaration, the Committee do not perceive the force of the objection, that were the Aberdeen Act repealed, the African slave-trade to Brazil would be revived. The Committee have no evidence to justify them in entertaining the opinion so often publicly expressed, that the cessation of the African slave-trade to Brazil is due to the operation of the Aberdeen Act; but whether this happy consummation be attributable to this cause, or entirely to a change of policy on the part of the Brazilian Government, or whether it be ascribable to both causes combined, the great and indisputable fact remains, that for upwards of thirteen years not a cargo of slaves has been landed in Brazil from the coast of Africa.

The Committee, therefore, respectfully submit that the most important of the two contingencies, which, in the Earl of Aberdeen's letter aforesaid to Mr. Hamilton, his lordship specifies as a ground for recommending Parliament to repeal the Act of 1845, has actually taken place; and as the total extinction of the African slave-trade to Brazil leaves no pretext for exacting of the Brazilian Government a treaty for the suppression of an evil which no longer exists, the Committee would venture to suggest to Her Majesty's Government, that the time has come when it may with equal justice and propriety, repeal the Act of 1845, which a combination of circumstances has rendered so long inoperative.

In conclusion the Committee would respectfully submit, that apart from the ill feeling and irritation already adverted to, which the retention of the Act occasions in Brazil, and which are a positive hindrance to anti-slavery effort in that country, there would be great wisdom on the part of Great Britain in conciliating the Brazilians, so as to secure their co-operation in international anti-slavery action, which this Society so earnestly desires; and it is upon these grounds, not less than upon the obvious justice of the

case, that the Committee rest the present appeal.

On behalf of the Committee,

S. GURNEY, *President.*

R. ALSOP, *Chairman of Committee.*

L. A. CHAMEROVZOW, *Secretary.*

27 New Broad Street,

June 30, 1865.

#### THE SITUATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE friends of humanity may at length rejoice at the termination of the civil war in the United States; a war commenced by the slaveholders for the one wicked purpose of extending and consolidating their detestable institution, and prosecuted by the Federal Government, originally to restore the integrity of the nation, although, towards its close, it assumed another character, inasmuch as the declared purpose of the North was to secure the abolition of Slavery throughout the States. But the struggle is at an end. The Confederate armies are entirely broken up and dispersed; the Confederate Generals have made their submission; Jefferson Davis, captured during an ignominious flight, is a prisoner in Fortress Monroe, awaiting his trial as a traitor; the Federal armies have been disbanded; the war establishments are being rapidly reduced to their *minimum* of strength in times of peace; gradually the authority of Washington is being re-established throughout the States; and—in a word—peace once more reigns throughout the land.

The new President has, hitherto, discharged the onerous duties of his office in a manner to disappoint the predictions of the advocates of the South in this country, but strictly in accordance with, from what his friends knew of his character, they expected of him. He has declared that traitors must and shall be punished, and the majesty of the nation be vindicated by their condemnation; but he has not given any indication of the ruffianly, bloodthirsty spirit which his calumniators asserted was natural to him. On the contrary, his acts shew him to be extremely humane, and considerate towards those who have rebelled, and are penitent.

His course against Davis has been severely criticized by the English press. He is severely censured for arraigning him as a traitor, after giving out that treason must be severely punished. The act of treason, on the part of the rebel leader, is denied, and people insist that he ought to have been let go. We consider that those who are of this view grievously err. It should be borne in mind that treason is defined by the Constitution of the United States, and limited to the two acts of making war against the Government of the United States, and giving aid and comfort

to its enemies. Obviously the first section of this definition could not apply to a foreign Power, for treason implies citizenship and an oath of loyalty. It is therefore clear that the framers of the Constitution contemplated the possibility of rebellion, and provided for the contingency accordingly. It will be said that the Federal Government declared and treated the Confederates as belligerents, therefore as a foreign people at war with an independent Government. We do not admit the argument; for the recognition of a state of belligerency is the mere admission of the fact of war between two parties, with a view to regulate the policy of foreign States towards them. Moreover, the jurists who laid down the great principles of international law did not provide for such an event as the late American civil war, though they did foresee that any nation might choose to define what treason is, for its own guidance, and left it the right of so doing. Even then, although the Federal Government did, from motives of humanity, virtually regard the Confederates as belligerents, it did not, therefore, renounce its own constitutional dogmas defining treason, nor thereby absolve from guilt the arch-leader of the slaveholders' rebellion and his coadjutors.

There is yet another consideration. The Confederates founded a strong plea of defence upon the doctrine of States' Rights. These were denied by the Federal Government, as, indeed, by all who were not hoodwinked by pro-slavery proclivities. If States' Rights be admitted to exist, then treason, as defined by the Constitution, is a misnomer, a self-contradiction, an absurdity. It is felt, that while the Federal armies have vanquished this revolutionary doctrine in the field, it remains for it to be put down by law. This will be done by the condemnation of Mr. Davis, and thus a fruitful element of discord will be abolished.

But, it is asked, will Davis be hanged? As opponents of capital punishment, we sincerely trust, as we confidently believe, that he runs no risk of so exalted a mode of death, whatever his crimes may be; for we consider him primarily guilty of all the bloodshedding which the late wicked rebellion has caused. That he may be condemned as guilty of treason, we think probable, but then it must not be forgotten that Congress alone has the power of determining what shall be the penalty for that crime, and that it is the President's prerogative to extend clemency to any criminal. Thus, it will be seen that while Jefferson Davis is almost certain to be adjudged guilty of treason, his ultimate fate will rest with the Congress and with the President. It is not likely that a grave and deliberative as-



sembly would pronounce an unconsidered verdict, or be guided by party feelings in its resolutions on so serious a matter. If it should resolve that death be the penalty for treason, Davis will be condemned to die; then President Johnson will have to exercise his prerogative, and, we doubt not, will do so in favour of the greatest criminal of the day. We may be wrong, but we believe this is the course which events are likely to take, and there are too many advocates of mercy amongst the party in power to leave us under any apprehension that they will be found wanting when the time comes for them to raise their voices in favour of clemency.

The great question of the day, however, is that of "reconstruction." Although Slavery is virtually abolished, or rather, although emancipation is a fact, the political *status* of the freedmen is not only not yet defined, but, in our opinion, is in imminent danger of being left to their enemies to deal with it as they list. The model ordinance for reconstruction, which is to serve for North Carolina, and the text of which we give in another column, limits the right of the vote for convening a State Convention, to loyal citizens only, and to only such of them as were loyal before the war. In other words, white loyalists alone are to enjoy the right of the ballot, and the Convention—which will, of course, consist of only them—thus elected, will determine the basis of the suffrage. Now the love of the negro race is not a characteristic of the people of any Southern State, and the prejudices which Slavery has engendered are not likely to disappear all at once. In no case, do we think, will the emancipated class be permitted to exercise the suffrage, save under restrictions which will render the possession of the right practically inoperative. Yet, unless this long ill-used class of the community be admitted to the full privilege of citizenship, without other restrictions than are imposed upon their fellow-citizens, at no remote period the pro-slavery element, now dormant, but so tenacious of life, will assuredly be revived, and will proceed to legislate in such wise as will vitiate the emancipation proclamation, and nullify all the Acts which have been passed in the same spirit. Moreover, the party of liberty and the Government itself will be continually in danger of being defeated on all questions involving the negro race. Laws regulating the conditions and the price of labour may be passed, which will establish a form of serfdom, and leave the labourer at the mercy of his employer; and numerous other questions, most materially affecting the condition of the freedmen will, in like manner, be determined to their disadvantage, unless they possess the right of con-

trolling, by the elective vote, the powers of those who represent them. Already we see, with exceeding alarm and disapproval, attempts to fix the rate of wages be paid to the freedmen. This is wrong in principle, and will prove disastrous to the employer. Why should not the price of wages be allowed to regulate itself naturally by the operation of the law of supply and demand? It was a similar interference which first upset the relations between the emancipated classes and their employers in our West-Indian Colonies, and which is even now operating most disadvantageously. It is an interference highly unjust to the industrious labourer, and equally detrimental to the interests of the hirer of labour. It will operate to discourage the freedman from working, because he will feel he is not free to earn as much as he could were the labour-market open, and will ultimately defeat the selfish plans of the planter, by forcing the labourer to seek other means of obtaining a living. In a general article, such as the present one is intended to be, we cannot fully discuss the subject, but shall revert to it in another.

We are gratified to perceive that the Hon. C. Sumner and the leaders, of the abolition party, unite in sentiment on this great question of freedman suffrage. It cannot be neglected without extreme danger to the best interests of the community. While we most deeply regret the personal differences which have deprived the Abolitionist party of the pre-eminently valuable services of its great leader, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, we rejoice in the continuation of the organization and movement of which he was the founder and the apostle, and believe that his mantle has fallen on worthy shoulders. Wendell Phillips is zealous, supremely eloquent, and single-hearted in the cause, and his co-adjutors are equally thorough. They avow their determination to agitate for the extension to the freedmen of all the rights and privileges actually pertaining to white citizenship, and we sincerely wish them "God speed." Whilst the nation was yet uncertain of victory, the helot race had less to fear, because daily it made its importance more felt. But now that the rebellion is overthrown, the enemies of freedom will bestir themselves in other directions, to obtain, by political stratagem, what they failed to secure by force of arms. The interests of the race are therefore now in greater danger than during the war; wherefore, let all its friends be up, be stirring, be vigilant, be resolute, and the cause is gained..

#### PRO-SLAVERY LEGISLATION IN JAMAICA.

THE Jamaica *Morning Journal* of the 23rd and 24th May ult., has the following re-

marks on an article under the above heading which appeared in our issue for May:

"An article recently appeared in the *Anti-Slavery Reporter* headed 'Pro-slavery Legislation in Jamaica.' Whilst we thank the writer for the repugnance he expresses to the employment of the whip as an instrument of correction, and the effort he promises to make to ensure the disallowance of the Whipping Bill, we cannot but regret that he should have been led to write upon such utterly erroneous statements as are put forth in the course of his remarks. He is under the impression that the Bill was wholly the device of the planters, and designed for the punishment of cane-stealing. To our readers we need not say how utterly incorrect is this assertion; but for the information of Mr. Chamerovzow and the readers of the *Anti-Slavery Reporter*, it is necessary that we should make it known that the Bill originated with the Governor, who left a similar memorial of his worth at Antigua, of which colony he was at one time Lieutenant-Governor. It originated with the Governor, was introduced by the executive Committee, was supported by many others besides the planters, and was designed for the restraint of larcenies committed on the provision-fields of the peasantry. We earnestly hope that the Queen will be advised to disallow the Bill, but not even to ensure its defeat is the misrepresentation of the *Anti-Slavery Reporter* warranted."

Our reply to these comments may be presented in a few words. It little matters who introduced the Bills we condemn; and it seems our contemporary does the same. Their having been originated by the Governor—who has not shewn himself a friend of the people's—is a proof in our favour. But we did not say that these Bills were "wholly the device of the planters," nor that they were entirely "designed for the punishment of cane-stealing." We took them as they stood, and for whomsoever designed, and that they were introduced by the Executive Committee—virtually the nominees of the Governor—is no argument in their favour. We deny that it was supported by "many others," and challenge our contemporary to the proof of his assertion. The record of the proceedings is now before us, and while one was voted without dissent, the other was carried by a majority of four against two in a House of six, whilst its full complement is forty-seven. We demur to the allegation of their having been "designed for the restraint of larcenies committed on the provision-fields of the peasantry." They were directed against "petty larcenies" in general, and under this head cane-stealing is the most prominent offence, for we suppose it comes under the head "root or plant, or vegetable production." What our impressions were, we succinctly stated; what they were not, our contemporary has been so

obliging as to invent. With these explanatory observations we leave him.

We have, however, a few more facts and remarks to submit.

The distinction drawn by the law, between furtive trespassing and larcenies, had been observed upon the English Acts known as the 'Peel Acts,' and been made statutes of the colony in the 7th of William IV. By a succession of laws, for the last dozen or fourteen years, the discrimination has been withdrawn in punishing offenders, by making it imperative to imprison and inflict penal labour. As a necessary consequence, the inmates of prisons have been numerous. Pecuniary fines, except in offences against public order and decency, have been now mainly obliterated from the Jamaica Statute book.

On the abolition of Slavery, persons subjected to penal labour, or correctional discipline, were not to be worked in the public streets, or on the highways. On the ground that useful labour could not be adequately supplied within the walls of prisons, permission was given to the Government to work convicts in public. The discrimination between misdemeanants and felons being removed when all were subject to penal labour, the next step was to work prisoners in chains. The streets and highways are to be seen now disfigured by as many chain-gangs as during Slavery, and these chain-gangs may be hired by persons undertaking contract work in streets and roads.

The discrimination between furtive trespasses and larcenies being no longer to be regarded, the preamble of the Act 28 Victoria, chap 4, declaring that stealing "produce growing on land" is to be punished with increased severity, declares "whoever shall steal any tree, plant, root, fruit, or any other vegetable production, growing in any garden, orchard, provision-ground, or cane, coffee, or pimento-field, shall be deemed guilty of felony;" and then, by the 18th chapter of the same legislature, by the 'Act to authorize the infliction of corporal punishment in certain cases of larceny and other offences,' it is made law, upon that Act coming into operation, for the judge of any circuit court—these being now parochial—in lieu of or in addition to the punishment already authorized by law, to sentence any male person convicted before him of any of the illegal acts or offences described to be whipped. These are enumerated. For every second or subsequent conviction for stealing, destroying, or damaging with intent to steal, any cultivated root, fruit, or other vegetable production, growing in any garden, &c., or in any cane, coffee, or pimento-field, &c., whether the same be enclosed or not, whipping is to be the punishment. Then, after referring to the theft of horses, mules, asses, cows, and oxen (the carrying and draft animals used on plantations), for which the same punishment is to be inflicted, it included the wilful maiming of these animals; and in the stealing of any domesticated animal ordinarily used for human food (consequently poultry), the offence of receiving any such property knowing the same to have been stolen, is an offence also for which whipping may be the punishment.



The sentence distinguishes between the offenders who are under sixteen years of age, and, above that age, inflicting on the one twenty-five stripes, and on the other fifty; and directs that the visiting justices of prisons at the execution of such punishment, shall appoint that the whipping shall be in the presence of two constables, appointed under the Constabulary and Reward Fund Act—that is, under the Act appointing and paying plantation constables for detecting and convicting offenders; and these constables, attending at the infliction of whipping, shall be of 'the district or neighbourhood in which the offence for which the whipping is to be inflicted was committed.' Here plantation discipline and coercion are to be specifically the purpose of the law.

The following two extracts are from the journals of the legislature. They contain the Governor's invitation to pass such a law, and his remarks to the Assembly at the close of the Session when the suggested law had been enacted:

"The gaols of the colony are filled with the young and the strong of both sexes, chiefly committed for theft; and though the value of the labour performed by prisoners during the past year has increased in proportion to their augmented numbers—being more than double what it was in 1861—the punishments at present in force have not that deterrent effect which should be the chief object of penal law. I believe, therefore, that a resort to whipping, and the re-establishment of a tread-mill in the penitentiary, are absolutely essential to put a stop to a class of crime which is attaining a magnitude so serious, and so detrimental to the best interests of the colony." 'The amendment of the law relating to prisoners, and the enactment of a law to punish certain offences by the infliction of corporal punishment, will, I believe, have a most salutary effect in repressing crime, and in enabling the Executive to make the best arrangements practicable for disposing of convicted offenders."

It should be observed that the enabling of the Executive to make what is spoken of as the best arrangement for the disposing of convicted offenders, was the adoption of the measure referred to in the following recommendation in the speech by which the Session was opened:

"In addition to the establishment of more stringent measures within the walls of the penitentiary, you may probably find it desirable, considering the great increase in the number of prisoners, to authorize their being employed upon the roads, or other public works, at a greater distance from the gaols than at present takes place;" that is, any how and anywhere in public contract for work.

The Act, chapter 22, of the last Session, making special provision for prison discipline in the parishes of St. Ann, St. Mary, Metcalfe, and St. George, represented as 'an Act for supplying convict labour on the roads and other works in that district, and to provide for the extended employment of convicts otherwise, and towards the organization of more efficient prison management,' declares, without limitation to sex, that the term 'hard labour' in the previous consolidation Act, 20 Victoria, chap 11, shall

mean 'labour on the tread-wheel.' This re-introduces a punishment which was proved, by the abuses that occurred during the apprenticeship, to be death to the weak person sentenced to undergo it, and to be to all, torture; under pretext of coercing to the drill, the whip was always in the hands of the officers superintending.

The obvious tendency of the existing law is to make all the labouring population convicts, and as provision is made for working the persons sentenced to hard labour on contracts for hire, and as the hire is effected at a very low figure, per head, per diem, the honest peasant must reduce his price for the work to the standard of convict labour, in a country where population prefers an employment.

Notwithstanding the censure of our Jamaica contemporary, we submit that we have made out a case upon exact data, proving that the proslavery spirit does exist in the island, and we shall not allow the matter to drop till we have obtained an impartial commission of inquiry to thoroughly investigate the actual state of affairs in the island.

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IN our Summary, reference is made to a proclamation or ordinance, which has been issued by President Johnson, for the reconstruction of the State of North Carolina; and as it is stated that it is to form the model for similar action with regard to the other rebel States, it is important to place it on record, for convenience of reference.

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the said convention, when convened, or the legislature that may be thereafter assembled, will prescribe the qualification of electors and the eligibility of persons to hold office under the constitution and laws of the State; a power the people of the several States, composing the Federal Union, have rightfully exercised from the origin of the Government to the present time. And I do hereby direct:—

"First, That the military Commander of the Department, and all officers and persons in the military and naval service, aid and assist the said provisional Governor in carrying into effect this proclamation; and they are enjoined to abstain from in any way hindering, impeding, or discouraging the loyal people from the organization of a State Government as herein authorized.

"Second, That the Secretary of State proceed to put in force all laws of the United States, the administration whereof belongs to the State Department, applicable to the geographical limits aforesaid.

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For several months past, every mail has brought letters informing me of the continually increasing distress of the coloured population. As a sufficient illustration, I quote the following brief passage from one of them:—

"Crime has fearfully increased. The number of prisoners in the penitentiary and gaols is considerably more than double the average and nearly all for one crime—larceny. Summonses for petty debts disclose an amount of pecuniary difficulty which has never before been experienced; and applications for parochial and private relief prove that multitudes are suffering from want, little removed from starvation."

The immediate cause of this distress would seem to be the drought of the last two years; but, in fact, this has only given intensity to suffering previously existing. All accounts, both public and private, concur in affirming the alarming increase of crime, chiefly of larceny and petty theft. This arises from the extreme poverty of the people. That this is its true origin, is made evident by the ragged and even naked condition of vast numbers of them; so contrary to the taste for dress they usually exhibit. They cannot purchase clothing, partly from its greatly increased cost, which is unduly enhanced by the duty (said to be thirty-eight per cent. by the honourable Mr. Whitelocke) which it now pays, and partly from the want of employment, and the consequent absence of wages.

The people, then, are starving, and the causes of this are not far to seek. No doubt the taxation of the island is too heavy for its present resources, and must necessarily render the cost of producing the staples higher than they can bear, to meet competition in the markets of the world. No doubt much of the sugar land of the island is worn out, or can only be made productive by an outlay which would destroy all hope of profitable return. No doubt, too large a part of the island is uncultivated, and might be made to support a greater population than is now existing upon it.

But the simple fact is, there is not sufficient employment for the people: there is neither work for them nor capital to employ them.

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The people, then, are starving, and the causes of this are not far to seek. No doubt the taxation of the island is too heavy for its present resources, and must necessarily render the cost of producing the staples higher than they can bear, to meet competition in the markets of the world. No doubt much of the sugar land of the island is worn out, or can only be made productive by an outlay which would destroy all hope of profitable return. No doubt, too large a part of the island is uncultivated, and might be made to support a greater population than is now existing upon it.

But the simple fact is, there is not sufficient employment for the people: there is neither work for them nor capital to employ them.



The labouring class is too numerous for the work to be done. Sugar cultivation on the estates does not absorb more than 30,000 of the people, and every other species of cultivation (apart from provision-growing) cannot give employment to more than another 30,000. But the agricultural population of the island is over 400,000, so that there are at least 340,000, whose livelihood depends on employment other than that devoted to the staple cultivation of the island. Of these 340,000, certainly not less than 130,000 are adults, and capable of labour. For subsistence, they must be entirely dependent on the provisions grown on their little freeholds, a portion of which is sold to those who find employment on the estates; or, perhaps in a slight degree, or such produce as they are able to raise for exportation. But those who grow produce for exportation are very few; and they meet with every kind of discouragement to prosecute the means of support which is as advantageous to the island as to themselves. If their provisions fail, as has been the case, from drought, they must steal or starve. And this is their present condition.

The same result follows in this country, when employment ceases or wages fail. The great decrease of coin in circulation in Jamaica is a further proof that less money is spent in wages, through the decline of employment. Were Jamaica prosperous, silver would flow into it; or its equivalent in English manufacture, instead of the exportation of silver, which now regularly takes place. And if, as stated in the Governor's speech, the customs revenue in the year gone by has been equal to former years, this has arisen, not from an increase in the quantities imported, but from the increased value of the imports, the duty being levied at an *ad valorem* charge of twelve-and-a-half per cent. on articles such as cotton goods, which have within the last year or two, greatly risen in price.

I shall say nothing of the course taken by the Jamaica Legislature; of their abortive Immigration Bills; of their unjust taxation of the coloured population; of their refusal of just tribunals; of their denial of political rights to the emancipated negroes. Could the people find remunerative employment, these evils would in time be remedied, from their growing strength and intelligence. The worst evil consequent on the proceedings of the legislature is the distrust awakened in the minds of capitalists, and the avoidance of Jamaica, with its manifold advantages, by all who possess the means to benefit it by their expenditure.

Unless means can be found to encourage the outlay of capital in Jamaica in the growth of those numerous products which can be profitably exported, so that employment can be given to its starving people, I see no other result than the entire failure of the island, and the destruction of the hopes that the legislature and the people of Great Britain have cherished with regard to the well-being of its emancipated population.

With your kind permission I will venture to make two or three suggestions, which, if carried out, may assist to avert so painful a result.

1st. A searching inquiry into the legislation of the island since emancipation, its taxation, its

economical and material condition, would go far to bring to light the causes of the existing evils, and, by convincing the ruling class of the mistakes of the past, lead to their removal. Such an inquiry seems also due to this country, that it may be seen whether the emancipated peasantry have gained those advantages which were sought to be secured to them by their enfranchisement.

2nd. The Governor might be instructed to encourage, by his personal approval and urgent recommendation, the growth of exportable produce by the people on the very numerous freeholds they possess. This might be done by the formation of associations for shipping their produce in considerable quantities; by equalizing duties on the produce of the people, and that of the planting interests; by instructing the native growers of produce in the best methods of cultivation, and pointing out the articles which would find a ready sale in the markets of the world; by opening channels for direct transmission of produce, without the intervention of agents, by whose extortions and frauds the people now frequently suffer and are greatly discouraged. The cultivation of sugar by the peasantry should, in my judgment, be discouraged. At the best, with all the scientific appliances the planters can bring to it, both capital and machinery, sugar manufacturing is a hazardous thing. Much more must it become so in the hands of the people, with their rude mills and imperfect method. But the minor products of the island, such as spices, tobacco, farinaceous food, coffee and cotton, are quite within their reach, and always fetch a fair and remunerative price, when not burdened by extravagant charges and local taxation.

3rd. With just laws and light taxation, capitalists would be encouraged to settle in Jamaica, and employ themselves in the production of the more important staples, such as sugar, coffee, and cotton. Thus the people would be employed, and the present starvation rate of wages be improved.

In conclusion, I have to apologize for troubling you with this communication; but since my visit to the island in 1859-60, I have felt the greatest interest in its prosperity, and deeply grieve over the sufferings of its coloured population. It is more than time that the unwisdom (to use the gentlest term) that has governed Jamaica since emancipation should be brought to an end; a course of action which, while it incalculably aggravates the misery arising from natural, and therefore unavoidable causes, renders certain the ultimate ruin of every class—planter and peasant—European and Creole.

Should you, Dear Sir, desire such information as it may be in my power to furnish, or see me on the matter, I shall be most happy either to forward whatever facts I may possess, or wait upon you at any time that you may appoint.

I have &c.

(Signed) EDWD. B. UNDERHILL.

PS. I append an extract from the speech of the Hon. H. A. Whitelocke in the House of Assembly, with respect to the condition of the people.

"He (Mr. Whitelocke) would make an assertion which could not be gainsaid by his successor, that taxation could not be extended; nor one

farthing more could be imposed upon the people, who were suffering peculiar hardship from the increased value of wearing apparel, which was now taxed beyond all bounds: actually they were paying thirty-eight per cent. now, when twelve-and-a-half per cent. was before considered an outrageous *ad valorem* duty. Cotton goods, including Osnaburgh and all the wearing apparel of the labouring classes, had increased 200 per cent. in value: what was brought at four pence per yard before, was selling at a shilling per yard. Therefore the people are now paying a penny halfpenny duty on every yard of cloth, instead of one halfpenny, which has been justly described as a heavy impost. The consequence is that a disgusting state of nudity exhibited itself in some parts of the country. Hardly a boy under ten years of age wore a frock, and adults, from the ragged state of their garments, exhibited those parts of the body where covering was especially wanted. The lower classes hitherto exhibited a proneness for dress, and he could not believe such a change would have come over them, but for his belief in their destitution, arising out of a reduction in their wages, at a time when every article of apparel had risen in value. This year's decrease in imports foreshadowed what was coming. Sugar was down again at 11l. per hoghead; coffee was falling; pimento was valueless; logwood was scarcely worth cutting; and, moreover, a sad diminution was effected in our chief staple exports, from a deficiency of rain."

Subjoined is the copy of the resolutions proposed at the public meeting held in Kingston, Jamaica, already referred to:—

Kingston, May 3, 1865.

In accordance with a numerously signed requisition to the Honourable Edward Jordon, C.B., Mayor of Kingston, a public meeting was duly convened at the New Court House in this city at three o'clock, on Wednesday evening, the 3rd of May 1865.

It was moved by the Rev. James F. Roach that Geo. Wm. Gordon, Esq., be requested to take the chair, which was seconded by Mr. Wm. Kelly Smith, and carried unanimously.

It was also proposed that Mr. Wm. Kelly Smith be appointed Secretary, after which the chairman requested that gentleman to read the requisition convening the meeting by the Mayor of Kingston, and after a few preliminary remarks from the chair, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by Rev. Edwin Palmer, seconded by Mr. J. H. Hamilton,

"Resolved 1st—That the thanks of this meeting are due to Almighty God for his preserving mercies vouchsafed unto us as a people since the period of emancipation, seeing that notwithstanding the many difficulties and obstacles that have been thrown in our way, we have been permitted to struggle on and wait until a merciful Providence appears to be opening up our pathway to better days."

Moved by Mr. J. H. Crole, seconded by Mr. Robert Wiltshire,

"Resolved 2nd—That we acknowledge the hand of Almighty God in the protracted drought

under which our land now suffers, and we feel disappointed that the authorities did not set apart a day for general fasting and prayers, and the supplicating of God's mercies."

Moved by Mr. Edward Duaney, seconded by Mr. Charles Crarey,

"Resolved 3rd—That this meeting would exhibit to the world its appreciation of the correctness and truthfulness of the statements of Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, relative to the distressed condition of the labouring population of this island."

Moved by Mr. Frederick Miller, seconded by Mr. John Aguilar,

"Resolved 4th—That this meeting considers the letter of Dr. Underhill, a gracious interference, and a stimulus to our expression, touching the burden of the masses, as it respects the want of employment, and the unhappy state of those who, through such want, are without the means of procuring the common necessities of life."

Moved by Mr. Samuel Clarke, seconded by Mr. Geo. Graham,

"Resolved 5th—That it is the solemn conviction of this meeting, that the time has arrived when the masses of the people of this country must speak out their woes, labouring as they do under many wrongs and disabilities arising out of class legislation, and other mal-administrations, which it is their interest and duty to endeavour to overcome in every constitutional way possible."

Moved by Mr. Joseph E. Goldson, seconded by Mr. John McCook,

"Resolved 6th—That in keeping with the foregoing resolution, we may instance the Whipping Bill and also the law of assault, which places an individual for common assault in the common felons' prison at the option of the presiding magistrate, thus causing the individual so sentenced to be damaged for life; also that a penitentiary in the city is a growing evil, inasmuch as the labour of the convict is brought into competition with, and takes the place of, that of the honest tradesman; takes the bread out of the poor man's mouth; tends to demoralize him, and thus reduces him in turn, necessarily, to a criminal condition."

Moved by Mr. Thomas Harry, seconded by Mr. Robert Miller,

"Resolved 7th—That this meeting deems it right to set forth its complaint against the importation of ready-made articles into the colony at the same rate of *ad valorem* duty as the raw materials, thereby making it impossible for tradesmen, artisans, and needlewomen, to find profitable employment."

Moved by Mr. Charles Clarke, seconded by Mr. William Smith, jun.,

"Resolved 8th—That this meeting is of opinion that at the present low rate of wages it will be impossible for the middle- and labouring classes to contribute to the wants of their family, and the support of religion, unless some prompt measures of relief be brought forward."

Moved by Mr. William Smith, sen., seconded by Mr. Edward Brown,

"Resolved 9th—That this meeting views with serious alarm the distress now prevailing to so great an extent in the colony, and thinks it a



matter that deserves the prompt and serious action, not only of our local Government, but also that of the mother country."

Moved by John O'Brien, seconded by Mr. J. Windall,

"Resolved 10th—That this meeting, whilst it glories in the many blessings conferred on us by the constitution under which we live, and being quite conscious of the loyalty which swells the heart of each individual, yet cannot but mourn the total absence of any proper regard towards us by those very persons who have, from time to time, been elected to represent our interests in our Colonial Parliament."

Moved by Mr. William Kelly Smith, seconded by Mr. Thomas Brown,

"Resolved 11th—That we view with thorough dissatisfaction the hundreds of thousands of pounds wrung out of an impoverished people and wasted on immigration, punitive and other measures; and the systematic abnegation of every principle involving the education of the masses, and other measures of a preventive and ameliorating character."

Moved by Mr. Joseph Emanuel Goldson, seconded by Mr. Christopher Pike,

"Resolved 12th—That this meeting, whilst appreciating the movement of our friends in England, gratefully acknowledges the same to be a most important one, calculated to obviate a great calamity long and painfully felt; at the same time assuring us that there are still those philanthropic feelings towards us, which actuated the veterans of emancipation in securing to us our most sacred privileges, and promises to enlist its most active exertions in furnishing them with such information as may be necessary to sustain their position in opposition to injustice and wrong."

Moved by Mr. Geo. A. Hynds, seconded by Mr. John Gibb, Surgeon,

"Resolved 13th—That this meeting considers it a duty devolving on it, as also on all the poorer classes throughout Jamaica, to tender to Dr. Underhill their sincere and hearty thanks for his kind interposition and prompt interference on their behalf."

Moved by Rev. James F. Roach, seconded by Mr. James K. Pusey,

"Resolved 14th—That this meeting heartily deprecates the course taken by some of our island press [in impugning the motives of Dr. Underhill, and also those of the Baptist Missionaries who first moved in the matter; but believes that the course pursued by these latter is calculated to secure the best interests of all classes in the island."

Moved by Mr. Robert Wiltshire, seconded by Mr. J. B. Armstrong,

"Resolved 15th—That in keeping with the foregoing resolutions, this meeting calls upon all the descendants of Africa in every parish throughout the island, to form themselves into societies and hold public meetings, and co-operate for the purpose of setting forth their grievances, especially now, when our philanthropic friends in England are leading the way."

Moved by Mr. W. L. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Alexander Grey,

"Resolved 16th—That the resolutions of this

meeting be addressed and respectfully presented by a deputation, appointed by the Chairman, to His Excellency the Governor, to be by him transmitted to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies; and also that a copy be forwarded to Dr. Underhill, and that the same be signed by the Chairman and Secretary on behalf of this meeting."

The following gentlemen were appointed the deputation:—

Rev. Edwin Palmer.	Rev. J. H. Crole.
Rev. J. F. Roach.	Mr. S. Aguilar.
Mr. Samuel Clarke.	Mr. Joseph E. Goldson.
Mr. Thomas Harry.	Mr. Wm. Smith, sen.
Mr. John O'Brien.	Mr. Wm. Kelly Smith.
Mr. John Gibb, Surgeon.	Mr. G. A. Hynds.
Mr. Edward Pinnock.	Mr. Geo. Graham.
Mr. Robert Miller.	Mr. W. H. Barclay.
Mr. Charles Clarke.	Mr. Jas. H. Hamilton.
Mr. Edward Duaney.	Mr. J. B. Armstrong.

Moved by Mr. Edward Duaney, seconded by Mr. Geo. Graham,

"Resolved 17th—That the resolutions of this meeting be published twice in the newspapers throughout the colony."

Moved by Mr. Wm. Kelly Smith, seconded by Mr. Thomas Harry,

"Resolved 18th—That a vote of thanks be tendered to George W. Gordon, Esq., for his impartial conduct in presiding over the affairs of this meeting, and that three cheers be given in honour of our most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and the philanthropists of Great Britain, for their watchfulness over the interests of the people of this colony, whom they in their magnanimity emancipated twenty-six years ago.

GEO. W. GORDON, Chairman.

W. KELLY SMITH, Secretary.

#### DEATH OF S. A. BENSON, PRESIDENT OF LIBERIA.

WE regret to record the death of Stephen Allen Benson, for eight years President of Liberia, who died on the 24th January last. Many in England, who held social intercourse with the late Mr. Benson, during his visit in 1862, and were present at the banquet given in his honour, and presided over by Lord Brougham, will remember the courteous bearing of this gentleman, one of the best specimens of the African race; a man of moderate education, but of enlarged views, and ardently devoted to the progress of his country and the extension of civilization inland from the West Coast of Africa. After being four times elected to the Presidency, he retired into private life; again, in 1865, the people clamoured for him to resume the direction of their affairs. He declined, alleging his greater usefulness in urging on progress in agriculture, in commerce, and the arts of production. Acknowledged to be the greatest man of his country, he bent his energies to that end.

The following obituary notice we re-



print from the Washington *Morning Chronicle*:

"Mr. Benson has had somewhat a romantic career. Born of free coloured parents in Cambridge, Dorchester County, Maryland, March 16, 1816, he was taken by them to Liberia, reaching the city of Monrovia in August 1822, it being then occupied only since the preceding April. In the attack by the natives a few weeks after their arrival, Stephen was taken prisoner, and carried by them, in their forced and hurried retreat, to the interior. After four months' captivity, during which he was treated with much kindness and attention, he was returned to his family. From this time to 1830 he was occupied in acquiring the rudiments of an education in the schools established in the colony by the Colonization Society. He was appointed military storekeeper at Monrovia, which office he retained four years; and on the arrival of the illustrious Thomas Buchanan, Esq., the last of the white governors of Liberia, he became his private Secretary, not yet having attained his majority. He then engaged in commercial affairs at Bassa Cove, and was successful, at the same time cultivating a large coffee-farm, serving his country in the field and in several civil stations, always with honour to himself and to his race, and with acceptance to those in authority. In May 1853 he was elected Vice-President of the Republic, and in 1855, '57, '59, and '61, he was advanced and re-chosen to the Presidency, the highest office in the gift of his appreciating countrymen. Declining further public service, he retired to his plantation in 1863."

#### BRITISH SETTLEMENTS ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

SUBJOINED is a summary of the report of Colonel Ord, the Commissioner appointed by the Government to inquire into the condition of the British settlements on the West Coast of Africa, and who tendered this document to the Parliamentary Committee obtained by Mr. Adderley.

Colonel Ord was directed to inquire into the state of our establishments in these settlements, their financial condition and systems of taxation, and especially the moral influence which our occupation exercises on the neighbouring tribes. Our relations with them were to form one of the most important subjects of the report. The taxation of natives, the exercise over them of British protection, the practice of entering into negotiations and engagements with them, were topics which Mr. Cardwell in his preliminary instructions indicated as demanding Colonel Ord's careful consideration. The settlements reported on are,

Gambia, Sierra Leone, the Gold Coast, and Lagos, and then come some "general observations," in which Colonel Ord considers how far the settlements satisfactorily attain the objects which the country has in view in maintaining them, viz. the suppression of the slave-trade and the encouragement of British commerce, and how far they may be more completely attained by any improved arrangements. As regards the slave-trade, it has disappeared from the neighbourhood of every spot on the West Coast which has been made a British settlement; the distance to which it has been removed depending in a great measure on the extent to which the authorities of the settlement have been able to make their influence felt. Nor need this statement be limited to British territory, the Dutch and Danish possessions on the Gold Coast, and the Republic of Liberia, having been equally the means of banishing the traffic from their vicinity. It may be supposed that the presence of the squadron has had some share in producing this result, but that it is mainly due to the existence of the settlements is supported by the fact, that even in those which have been the least visited by men-of-war, it has been as effectually suppressed as in those which have been their most constant resort. Commerce alone is powerless to put an end to the slave-trade. Lagos has for many years had a large trade carried on by British and other European merchants, yet this did not prevent it from being at the same time the head-quarters of Slavery in the Bights. At Whydah an extensive trade in palm-oil has existed since 1849, and yet slaves have been regularly shipped from that port up to the present day, and a cargo was awaiting embarkation there in December last. Nor is this difficult of explanation. Palm-oil, which forms the principal article of trade, is collected by natives, chiefly domestic slaves, residing at or near the coast, its weight and bulk preventing it from being brought from a great distance in a country where there are no rivers; and it is evident that it would answer the chiefs better to turn their labour to account in this way than to sell them for exportation, even were not the customs of the country entirely opposed to such a proceeding. There is nothing, however, to prevent the chiefs from purchasing for export any number of the slaves captured in the hunts which are regularly undertaken for this purpose in certain parts of the interior, and so legitimate commerce and the slave-trade may be found combined in any spot on the coast to which British authority or influence does not extend. Thus the existence of the British settlements, and of the Republic of Liberia, has served to eradicate the

slave-trade from all but one spot on the 1500 miles of coast extending from the Gambia to Quittah; and the recent acquisition of Lagos is said to have freed almost entirely from the curse the remainder of the coast; the two exceptions being the small spot between the Gambia and Sierra Leone, and a portion of the sea-coast lying between Quittah and Lagos, immediately in the rear of which are the dominions of the notorious King of Dahomey. From the peculiar circumstances of his country, this monarch is indebted for his wealth and the maintenance of his authority over his people almost exclusively to the slave-trade. Whydah, the chief seaport of his dominions, is, as it has always been, the principal place of export.

#### WHITE SLAVES.

MR. JAMES CROPPER, of Kendal, has sent the following touching narrative to the Editor of the *Kendal Mercury*:

"SIR,—I have lately received some photographs of slave children, which I think some of your readers may like to examine. Mr. Wilson has kindly allowed me to place them in his shop, where any one may see them who cares to do so.

"Though I had often heard of Octoroon and Quadroon negroes, I confess I hardly expected to see faces so entirely like our own. The young creatures from whom these photographs were taken, were slaves brought from New Orleans since its occupation by the Federal troops, and they are now in New York, where my friend saw them and procured their pictures.

"The history of past wrong, which their very existence implies, and the misery which must have been before them, had they remained as slaves, needs no explanation from me; and yet I must relate, as a commentary, a true history of another white slave, which has just come to me from the same source as these pictures. Before the American war broke out my friend had a daughter at an excellent Boston boarding-school, and among the circle of young lady pupils who

were taught there, was a lovely Southern girl who had been sent for education by her father. At length a letter came to the lady who kept the school, stating that the father of this girl was dead, *that she was a slave*, and that the writer (the legal heir) claimed her as his property.

"The school-mistress was thunderstruck, as you may believe, and she and her friends strove by correspondence, by legal measures, finally by offer of purchase, to stave off compliance with the demand. But all was in vain: the obdurate possessor would take no denial, concluding probably from the urgency of the request that there was some special value in the poor lovely girl, who was now by law his own property. Then they told her her doom, that she was a hopeless slave to a stranger, to whom she must go to be kept or sold as was his pleasure.

"Honoured, happy, and gay until that moment, the terror-struck girl at length took in the dread purport of the message. She was degraded by no act of her's to the meanest level of existence; and these her friends, her teachers, must close round her as the agents of the cruel law which sealed her fate.

"What martyrdom could be compared with her despair? Would that all who in heart sympathize with Slavery (and they exist among us) could have been compelled to witness her agony.

"But she must go; and they went to fetch her and found that she was dead; that by her own hand she had ended her life, and cut short the fearful prospect which had been revealed to her. One breathes freer to hear even of this conclusion. Her sentence lies with another arbiter now.

"My story is a sad one, but it is true, and such as was a natural and an inevitable result of Slavery. That we are living to see the end of such a system may well cause our lasting thankfulness.

"Believe me, Your's, &c.,

"JAMES GRAHAM.

"P.S.—Let me remind your readers that the friends of the freed negroes are still anxious for assistance, and that contributions will be thankfully received by any member of our Committee in Kendal."

### FREEDMEN'S SUPPLEMENT.

#### APPEAL FOR THE FREEDMEN.

THE most active efforts continue to be made, throughout the country, to procure material aid for the Freedmen. To them we have called attention in previous numbers, and we trust the good work, hitherto increasing in success, as its scope and character have become more extensively known, may be continued with unflagging energy, till it shall have assumed the colossal proportions of a national movement. It is no disparagement to the exertions which are being made by inde-

pendent Committees and Associations to dwell upon the promptitude with which the Society of Friends—ever foremost in every great act of benevolence—took up the cause of the distressed Freedmen. The enslaved negro has ever been an object of special sympathy with this distinguished class of our countrymen, and it is the simple truth, that upon them and their connexions has fallen, almost exclusively, the pecuniary burden of the struggle, which, commencing in favour of the slaves of our own colonies, has never relaxed in

activity, but been consistently pursued in behalf of the enslaved negro in other parts of the world. Thus the interest they have taken in the present effort has been, from the outset, characterized by the energy which distinguishes a movement undertaken to carry out a great principle; and as they were foremost in the work of emancipation, there was a special suitability in their first taking the field, to promote what has become the anti-slavery work, *par excellence*, of the day.

The "Central Committee of the Society of Friends in Great Britain and Ireland, for the Relief of the Emancipated Slaves of the United States" has recently issued a fresh address to their fellow-members and the British public, appealing to them for prompt contributions in aid of the thousands of Freedmen, women, and children, whom circumstances have placed—temporarily only it is confidently hoped—in the most distressing position. This address is so much to the point, that we reproduce it, in the hope of stimulating many whom our periodical reaches, in the West Indies and other remote countries, to assist in this work of benevolence, by contributing their quota to the fund now being raised to help the destitute freed people till they can help themselves.

#### THE ADDRESS.

"Whilst we rejoice at the vast variety of the fields of philanthropic labour, private as well as public, in which many of our fellow-members and multitudes of our countrymen are engaged, and whilst we believe that in general it is desirable that every man should be encouraged to bestow his charity and his energies on those objects which most commend themselves to his individual judgment and sense of duty, there are, nevertheless, special occasions on which religious as well as civil communities ought to come forward, and stimulate one another to united action for the accomplishment of some one great object, more especially if that object be the immediate relief of colossal suffering.

"When, indeed, some common trial or calamity affects millions of human beings, nothing short of the united action of thousands seems capable of affording appreciable succour.

"Such was the cause which called forth the combined and successful efforts of British philanthropists for the abolition of the slave-trade and of British Colonial Slavery; such was the case of the relief of our Irish fellow-subjects during the famine of 1846, and of the distress in the manufacturing districts of England and Scotland in 1862-63, consequent on the cutting off of the cotton supply from America; and such, most signally, is the case of the slaves now being emancipated in the United States of America.

"We believe that comparatively few persons in this country, except those who have made it a special subject of investigation, are at all aware of the extent to which emancipation has been

actually effected, either by State legislation or by the presence or proximity of the Federal troops. Still fewer are at all acquainted with the nakedness, famine, sickness and utter destitution in which, temporarily at least, a very large proportion of those thus suddenly set free are involved.

"From the best information which can be obtained, about one million and a half of the four million slaves of the United States have already, in one way or another, been rescued from Slavery. This, be it remembered, is nearly double the number emancipated by Great Britain in her West-India Colonies. The work is still going on. Thousands more are added with every fresh extension of the line of freedom.

"Scattered over an area four times that of the United Kingdom, their circumstances, of course, widely differ. Many of the able-bodied promptly (and indeed with a rapidity which exceeds the most sanguine expectations) acquire the means of comfortable support for themselves and their families, either as labourers, or as occupiers or owners of small plots of land rented or purchased by them from the United-States Government. But the proportion of females, of young children, of aged, infirm or sick, is very large; and many of these, on their arrival at the camps, are nearly destitute of clothing. Even for the more robust there is necessarily an intermediate time of suffering and privation. The most industrious and the most skilful may, without some help, perish before they can obtain work, or before they can reap that which they have sown.

"Take one or two descriptions by way of practical illustration of what is liable to recur wherever there is not perfect organization and abundant provision for the wants of the district.

"Col. Eaton, the General Superintendent of the Freedmen in the Mississippi Valley, writes, immediately after the capture of Vicksburg:

"On my return to this point in August [1863], after the capture, being ordered by General Grant to inspect the condition of the Freedmen, and devise and effect the necessary improvements, the scenes were appalling. Crowded together; sickly, disheartened, dying on the streets; ten thousand scattered on the opposite bank of the river; not a family of them all either well sheltered, clad, or fed; no physicians, no medicines, no hospitals; many of the persons who had been charged with feeding them either sick or dead: the only industry found among twenty thousand was that performed by twelve axes."

"The following from the *Times* newspaper, February 23, 1865, will shew what vast numbers are suddenly thrown on the hands of the government officials: 'General Sherman is sending the negroes who followed him into Savannah to Beaufort. With the first shipload he sent this message to General Saxton: "Please find enclosed 7000 contrabands, the first instalment of 15,000. Many of them are from far up Georgia, and a long, weary, and sorrowful tramp they have had. Many of them, with little children, have not brought a thing with them, and have most miserable covering. Bales of clothing can be disposed of among them."

"General Saxton, to whom these people were



sent, thus writes about them: 'They were all utterly destitute of blankets, stockings, or shoes; and among the 700 there were not fifty articles in the shape of pots or kettles, or other utensils for cooking, no axes, very few coverings for many heads, and children wrapped in the only article not worn in some form by the parents.'

"J. M. McKim, in a letter dated from Washington, October 30, 1864, writes: 'There are not less than 40,000 blacks in this city and neighbourhood. Most of them are refugees from Virginia. Every new success of Grant, and every fresh advance of Sheridan, adds to their number. This city is filled with them. . . . Here, in wretched hovels, in the outer boundaries and inner purlieus of this over-crowded, half-military city, are hundreds of newly-arrived "contrabands," torn, scarred, ragged, wretched, just as they come from their masters. Here are ladies going from hovel to hovel, distributing garments to the naked, orders for farina, beef-tea, and the like, for the sick, and telling them where they will find schools for their children. And here are our schools in full operation.'

"Even when the physical wants of the Freedmen are supplied, the more difficult task remains of imparting the elements of Christian civilization to a race so long kept down by Slavery, and, without fault of theirs, in a state of forced ignorance and social degradation.

"They need, therefore, not only prompt relief in physical distress and suffering, but also earnest and sustained help in the great work of Christian education,

"If any say, 'This is an American question, let the Americans provide for their own wants,' we answer, 'America is doing her part nobly.' Her Government, notwithstanding the tremendous burdens of its own national calamity, has provided rations for all the fugitives, as well as, to some extent, clothing, oversight, and medical care. And private individuals, Christian men and women from most of the free States (and including many of our own fellow-members of the Society of Friends), impelled by a strong sense of duty, have devoted themselves gratuitously to the work of receiving, tending, caring for, instructing, and evangelizing the emancipated.

"With all these efforts, the work is so vast, that it altogether overtaxes their strength. THIS IS THE TIME OF AMERICA'S NEED. SHE HELPED US IN OUR NEED. SHALL WE NOT HELP HER IN HER'S? We speak not, of course, of her need in war. With that we can have nothing to do. And it is with no feelings of political partisanship that we now address you. But the hundreds of thousands of Freedmen in her midst who need food, clothing, nurture, and Christian instruction, and who are the helpless victims of circumstances over which they have no control, are as really a burden cast upon her, and claiming and deserving our sympathy and help, as the starving thousands of Ireland and of Lancashire were a burden cast upon us, and deserving (and obtaining too, be it remembered, to a vast extent) AMERICAN sympathy and help.

"But we believe that many Englishmen, and even some of our own body, are almost as ignorant of what the Americans did to assist us in the

Irish and Lancashire distress, as they are of the sufferings of the American Freedmen now. Suffer us, then, to bring a few of these facts before you; for though nineteen years have passed since the Irish famine, some of us who now address you shared in the labours of that day, both in England and Ireland.

"The London Irish Relief Committee of the Society of Friends, after appealing to our own members, and partially to the British public, invited the Americans to join us in this work of charity by the supply of either food or money. And how was this appeal responded to?

"Whilst the Friends in Great Britain and Ireland themselves gave and collected 51,616*l.*, the contributions from America, in money and provisions, transmitted to the Friends' Central Relief Committee in Ireland (over and above what was sent through other channels), amounted to no less a sum than 149,824*l.* Relief Committees were formed in different States of the Union, and a central one at Washington, headed by the Vice-President of the United States, and consisting of the most influential members of the Senate and House of Representatives. The American commission-brokers bought the supplies free of commission; the American carriers and railway companies conveyed the goods free of charge; the United-States Government supplied at their own expense two Admiralty steamers for the transport of part of the food, and, in order to increase the capacity for freight, took out the guns and replaced them with grain, thus furnishing a beautiful modern paraphrase (though, alas! but a transient one) of the Scripture similitude of beating swords into ploughshares, and spears into pruning-hooks.

"The total value of all the contributions from America to Ireland in her time of need cannot have fallen far short of 200,000*l.*

"These services were, at the time, gratefully acknowledged, in the strongest terms, by the Queen through Lord John Russell, and by Lord Palmerston in Parliament.

"More recently, at the time of the Lancashire distress, the value of the contributions from America is stated to have been nearly 350,000 dollars. The International Relief Committee of New York alone transmitted the value of nearly 26,013*l.* in flour, biscuits, and bacon; and the proceedings of the New-York merchants and citizens, in the public meetings convened for the object, breathed the language of the strongest sympathy with our suffering operatives, of love to our nation, and respectful reverence for our Queen.

"Shall we not be guilty of a gross repudiation of our national debts of gratitude and honour, if we write these successive kindnesses of America to our own starving populations in the sand, whilst but too ready to engrave the offences of a part of the American press in marble?

"It is surely no small additional incentive to liberality in this matter, that the work to be achieved is not only perfectly free from all objection, has in it no taint of war or of politics (as some would insinuate), but is for an object which, on other grounds than those of gratitude or of ordinary charity, ought to lie near the heart of every friend of humanity and of freedom. We

have spoken of the destitution which has fallen upon the Freedmen as a "*calamity*;" but it is a calamity bound up with, and part and parcel of, that which is or which will be to them the greatest of temporal blessings—*personal liberty for themselves and for their children*,—a boon which it is most gratifying to see how highly they prize, even when accompanied by the greatest destitution and suffering. Since our own abolition of colonial Slavery no event has occurred which ought more cordially to enlist the sympathies and arouse the energies of every true philanthropist, than this of the rapidly-progressing extinction of North-American negro bondage.

"A few practical details must here be added, both by way of information as to the little which has already been done in this country for the cause of the Freedmen, and also by way of suggestion as the best means for obtaining the much more liberal aid which we now urgently call for from our friends and fellow-countrymen.

"On first receiving, principally through private channels, intelligence of the sufferings of the emancipated in America, the Society of Friends set on foot, in 1863, a subscription throughout their own body, which amounted to about 3000*l.*, and which was promptly remitted to very efficient local Committees of Friends, in Philadelphia, New York, and Cincinnati.

"A second subscription was made in the same way in 1864, which amounted to an additional 5000*l.* In both these subscriptions there were included a few liberal contributions from our fellow-Christians of other denominations. The Friends in Ireland have also raised 1500*l.*

"These funds are now wholly exhausted.

"A General Freedmen's-Aid Society has also been formed in London, under the presidency of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton; and upwards of 3000*l.* have been raised by it, and remitted partly in cash and partly in goods, principally to the Western Freedmen's-Aid Association, whose head-quarters are at Cincinnati.

"An energetic effort has been made in the provinces, under the designation of the Birmingham and Midland Freedmen's-Aid Society. This Association has raised about 2500*l.* in goods, and 1500*l.* in cash, and has been the means of obtaining free freights for their goods, and a remission of duties on the other side; and has also excited a large amount of interest in their own district and in other parts of the country, in favour of the emancipated and their devoted benefactors in America.

"In other places in England, and also in Scotland and Ireland, contributions in money and goods have been made, and sent direct to the United States. The amount sent from Liverpool has already reached nearly 2000*l.*

"Yet we fear that, with all these efforts, and including individual bounty, the whole that this nation, with her vast resources, her prosperous commerce, and her high professions of anti-slavery feeling, has as yet given in aid of this great cause, would not exceed 25,000*l.* Such a result, so inadequate to the requirements of the *Freedman's need* and of *our duty*, cannot be announced without some sense of shame. It is barely one-tenth, we believe, of that which

America remitted to us on the two occasions above alluded to.

"At the same time, intelligence continues to pour in upon us of the rapidly increasing numbers of the emancipated; of the faithful and self-sacrificing labours of those who are devoting themselves to the mitigation of their sufferings, and to the physical, moral, and religious improvement of their condition; and of the entire inadequacy of the funds at their disposal to the accomplishment of the end designed.

"Under such circumstances, let us act as if we thought nothing done whilst so much remains to do. Redoubled exertions are called for at our hands, and at yours. Promptitude is as requisite as liberality. He gives twice who gives quickly. Hundreds may perish while we are hesitating.

"Without, then, interfering with the operations of any other English Freedmen's-Aid Societies, but wishing them all encouragement and success, we believe it to be our duty in the first place to call upon our fellow-members of the Society of Friends to enter heartily upon a third subscription, which we trust will exceed either of the former, so far as they are themselves individually concerned; and in the next place to urge them in their respective localities to solicit their friends and neighbours to join heartily with them both in giving and in working.

"We hope that in most of the principal towns of the kingdom public meetings will be called, wholly independent of political bias, in which correct and recent information may be communicated, a healthy and really zealous feeling on the subject promoted, and collecting Committees appointed.

"Congregational collections may, also, in many places be obtained, if the subject is properly brought before ministers and influential members of the different churches.

"As clothing, tools, agricultural implements, and other manufactured goods are among the objects specially needed, contributions in kind should be solicited from shopkeepers and manufacturers. And various other agencies and modes of operation will, we doubt not, suggest themselves to those who give their hearts to the work.

"In the mean time, we shall, as a central Committee, continue to collect detailed and authentic intelligence on the progress of emancipation, the condition of the emancipated, and the operations of those who are engaged in ministering to their necessities and Christian instruction; and we shall be glad, from time to time, to transmit this information to any local Committees, or individuals who may be desirous of receiving it.

"When local Committees or individuals do not incline themselves to transmit the funds they may raise, we shall gratefully receive and endeavour discreetly to distribute them to the districts in America most needing help.

"We deeply feel the responsibility of being almoners of what we trust may prove so large a bounty, but we dare not shrink from it; and we crave that the blessing of the Lord may abundantly rest upon our humble labours—on those who give, as well as on the suffering thousands who are the objects of their generous charity.

"In conclusion, our appeal is addressed to all



of every denomination, of every shade of political opinion, and of every class in society who have hearts to feel and any thing in their hands to give.

"Let the poor contribute their mite; let those in moderate circumstances communicate freely of their good things to those who are ready to perish; and let those who have large possessions bear in mind that they are but stewards thereof, and that they will have to render an account of their stewardship to Him who regardeth the prayer of the destitute, and doth not despise their prayer. And may we all remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

"Signed, on behalf of the Committee,

"JOHN HODGKIN.

"Third Month, 1865."

We append a statement of the precise objects of this movement, and a list of the Committee appointed to carry them out:—

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, FOR THE RELIEF OF THE EMANCIPATED SLAVES OF NORTH AMERICA.

#### General Objects.

To stimulate the exertions of Friends and the community at large, in the present great crisis in the History of Emancipation.

To disseminate trustworthy information, and thereby endeavour to excite that interest which ought to be felt in regard to the physical, moral, and religious welfare of the Freed Negroes in America.

To work in harmony with the "Freedmen's-Aid Society" of London, the "Birmingham and Midland," and other similar Associations, in procuring increased contributions towards their common object, on such a scale as to make some return for the noble generosity shewn by America to this country, in connection with the Irish Famine and the Lancashire Distress.

#### Central Committee.

A. Albright.  
G. W. Alexander.  
W. C. Alexander.  
S. Allen.  
W. Allen.  
R. Alsop.  
J. G. Barclay.  
A. W. Bennett.  
Thomas Binns.  
J. B. Braithwaite.  
H. Brown.  
H. Brown, jun.  
Josiah Brown.  
B. Cadbury.  
R. Charleton.  
J. Forster.  
R. Forster.  
W. Fowler.  
F. E. Fox.  
S. Harrison.

J. Hodgkin.  
Dr. Hodgkin.  
C. Hoyland.  
J. Jacobs.  
W. S. Lean.  
E. Marsh.  
C. Morland.  
J. Morland.  
J. Phillips, jun.  
W. Pollard.  
H. Robinson.  
W. Robinson.  
F. Seebohm.  
J. Sharples.  
J. Simpson.  
E. Sturge.  
W. Tanner.  
J. H. Tuke.  
W. White.  
F. Wheeler.

With power to add to their number.

#### Treasurer.

G. W. ALEXANDER, Lombard Street, London.

#### Executive Committee.

G. W. Alexander.  
Robert Alsop.  
A. Albright.  
J. B. Braithwaite.  
B. Cadbury.  
F. E. Fox.  
Smith Harrison.

C. Hoyland.  
Dr. Hodgkin.  
John Hodgkin.  
W. Pollard.  
F. Seebohm.  
J. H. Tuke.

With power to add to their number.

Corresponding Committees have been formed in the following towns:—Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Bristol, Birmingham, Kendal, Birkenhead, Falmouth, Darlington, York, Leeds, Brighton, Luton, Croydon, Hertford, Exeter, &c.

Further Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, or any member of the Executive Committee.

#### THE FREEDMEN'S AID MOVEMENT.

THE movement in this country, in aid of the freedmen of the United States, is acquiring that degree of importance we predicted it would attain; and although the organization for carrying it forward is not yet complete, active efforts are being made in this direction, and we deem it important to record what has been effected up to the present time.

A meeting of the Committee and a few friends of the *London Freedmen's Aid Society* was held on Thursday evening, 4th May ultimo, at the residence of Dr. Hodgkin, Bedford Square, for the purpose of receiving a report from Dr. Tomkins, just returned from the United States. Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Bart., occupied the chair, and expressed the gratification he felt in taking part in the promotion of an object in which his father and grandfather were always deeply interested. Various letters, with announcements of subscriptions, having been presented, Dr. Tomkins read his report, in which he described the particulars of his mission to the United States, and gave assurance that the cause of the freed people in that country was progressing most satisfactorily. The doctor visited Halifax, Nova Scotia, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and numerous important places in the South, and also many of the camps, schools, and soup-kitchens in various parts of the country. In every direction he found the strongest sympathy was felt for the coloured population, and amongst the most influential men an undoubted disposition was shewn to promote their emancipation and education. He had interviews with Chief Justice Chase, the Hon. Mr. Sumner, Mr. Stanton, Andrew Johnson of Tennessee, General Grant, and the late lamented President, and a profound sentiment was expressed by those distinguished persons in favour of the objects of this Society, Chief Justice Chase stating that his great desire was, that when the war should cease, the coloured people should enjoy, without distinction, all the rights of citizenship. In his conversation with Andrew Johnson, he referred to the struggle he had made in behalf of the slave; and his reply was, that he had only done his duty, and hoped he should ever be able to do so. On seeing the late President, he told him that this Society rejoiced in the emancipation policy of the Government, and hoped that, ere



long, Slavery would altogether cease to exist. The President replied that he desired to see the slaves emancipated in large numbers. To effect this object had been his policy, and would continue to be so. The great characteristic of Mr. Lincoln was one generally observed in truly good men—vehement simplicity; and on taking leave he was firmly convinced of his disinterested patriotism, and of the honesty and uprightness of his character. In regard to General Grant, Dr. Tomkins's interview with him was a prolonged and satisfactory one, the General affording every facility for proceeding on his travels, expressing himself in laudatory terms concerning the characteristics of the coloured troops, and indicating his satisfaction at learning from him that 'all the brains of this country were in favour of the North.' As instances of the fact, that in many respects the coloured people showed superiority to the white, Dr. Tomkins gave some statistics to prove that in the almshouses, city jail, workhouses, in and around Baltimore, and amongst those who were charged with vagrancy, a very considerable majority belonged to the white population. Dr. Tomkins concluded his report by stating that, in the fulfilment of his important and interesting mission, he found abundant reason to believe, not only that the slave race would become entirely free, but that it would be raised to the position of worthy and instructed citizenship. A resolution was passed conveying to the doctor a cordial vote of thanks, and leaving it to the acting Committee to consider the propriety of printing the report for circulation in America as well as in England. It was also proposed that an early meeting should be held at Exeter Hall, or elsewhere, to welcome Dr. Tomkins and the Rev. Dr. Storrs, an earnest and eloquent advocate of the anti-slavery cause, who was present. Dr. Storrs addressed the meeting at some length, urging with much energy the indispensable necessity of educating the emancipated slaves, both male and female. A tribute of thanks was then paid to the chairman, and to Dr. Hodgkin for the use of his rooms, and the meeting separated."

#### CONFERENCE.

In consequence of the inconvenience experienced in carrying forward this work through the medium of various independent bodies, and in accordance with suggestions for an attempt to systematize effort, as also with a view to economize the resources and the strength which were being expended in desultory exertions, scattered in various directions, and to consolidate and extend the action already taken for the relief of the freedmen in the United States, a meeting of delegates from the Freedmen's Aid Societies in the United Kingdom was held in the forenoon of Wednesday, the 17th of May ult., at the Westminster Palace Hotel, Westminster. Sir THOMAS FOWELL BUXTON, Bart., presided. There were also present, E. Baines, Esq., M.P., W. E. Forster, Esq., M.P., and other gentlemen of influence.

The CHAIRMAN opened the business of the Conference by explaining its object, namely, to form a *National Committee* to promote the Freedmen's-Aid Movement.

Mr. JOHN HODGKIN, of Lewes, moved, and Mr. ALBRIGHT, of Birmingham, seconded the following resolution:

"That while this meeting heartily rejoices in the labours and success of the various Freedmen's-Aid Associations in this country, it considers that the time has arrived for giving to the general work a more systematic, vigorous, and national character, and therefore recommends that a Committee be formed for this object, which shall at the same time recognise and act in harmony with the existing Societies."

The Rev. Dr. BROWN, of Cheltenham, moved, and Mr. ESTCOURT, of Manchester, seconded, the adoption of the following statement as embodying the reasons for the formation of a National Committee, and defining its mode and scope of action:

"The growing claims of the Freedmen's-Aid Movement, the improved state of the public sentiment in this country in relation to the United States, and the disadvantages attending the present scattered desultory efforts, have induced the friends of this great philanthropic work to endeavour to give to it increasing vigour and efficiency by the formation of a general Committee that shall fairly represent the various district Associations, and, as indicative of its scope and aim, shall bear the name of the National Committee of the British Freedmen's-Aid Associations. It is proposed that the existing district Associations, and any other of similar importance that may hereafter be duly organized, shall send two or more representatives to such National Committee. Such Associations are already organized in London, in Birmingham, and the Midland Counties; and local Associations exist in the towns of Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, and Bradford; also at Bristol, Cheltenham, Brighton, Mansfield, and other places. Besides the London Society, of which Sir Fowell Buxton is the President, a very efficient Association is conducted by members of the Society of Friends, called the Friends' Central Committee. It is proposed that these district Associations, containing their present Committee and officers, and any others of a similar kind to be hereafter formed, be duly represented in the National Committee. This Committee shall choose their own officers. This Committee shall hold at least four meetings every year, and, at each meeting, shall determine the place and time of the next meeting, it being understood that such meetings be not uniformly held in London, but may alternate between the metropolis and such towns as those already named. That the special functions of the National Committee be: 1. To obtain and publish information respecting the action of the district Associations, and to circulate such information from America and elsewhere as may be likely to further this important work. 2. To aid in the formation of district Associations where needed, and to advise as to modes of raising funds and affording help to the freed people. 3. To act as a medium of communication with the various Freedmen's-Aid Societies in America,

to and give counsel and suitable introduction to delegates from that country on behalf of the freedmen; and any other representatives or advocates who may be immediately employed in visiting various parts of the country and endeavouring to raise funds. 4. To hold annual or half-yearly public meetings for the purpose of reporting the general progress of the work, and in resolving upon any further measure in aid of this great undertaking, which the progress of events and further experience may suggest.

Mr. W. MORGAN, of Birmingham, moved, and the Rev. ROBERT ASHTON, Secretary of the Congregational Union, seconded, that a Sub-Committee, consisting of Messrs. Allbright, Seebohm, Dr. Tomkins, W. Morgan, and W. Allen, be appointed to prepare a condensed statement of the amount already obtained and forwarded by the various district Freedmen's Associations in this country.

These and other resolutions of a formal character were unanimously adopted.

At the close of the Conference, a vote of thanks was warmly accorded to the Chairman for his services.

#### PUBLIC MEETING.

In the afternoon of the same day, and in the larger room of the same hotel, a public meeting was held, which was attended by a large number of ladies and gentlemen.

His Grace the Duke of ARGYLL occupied the chair; and there were likewise present: the Duchess of Argyll, the Countess of Gainsborough, Lord Houghton, Lord Duffield, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Bart., the Hon. Arthur Kinnaid, M.P., Mr. G. W. Gower, M.P., Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P., Mr. G. Hadfield, M.P., Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P., Mr. S. Gurney, M.P., the Hon. C. W. Howard, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Henry M. Storrs (the representative of the Western Freedmen's Aid Commission), Mr. Levi Coffin (of Cincinnati), the Rev. Dr. Bliss (of the Syrian Mission), the Rev. Dr. Haynes (President of the New-York Central Freedmen's Commission), the Rev. Crammond Kennedy (of New York), Mr. Thomas Hughes, Mr. J. M. Ludlow, Dr. Hodgkin, Mr. M. D. Conway (of Virginia), Dr. Frederick Tomkins, the Revs. Dr. Brock, J. C. Gallaway, John Curwen, Dr. Massie, Dr. Brown (of Cheltenham), Robert Ashton (Secretary of the Congregational Union), Paxton Hood, Dr. Robert Vaughan, James Spong, S. Garratt, J. Oakley, Henry Solly, W. Dorling, M. E. Welby, and J. G. Manly; Messrs. R. Allen (Dublin), J. Morland (Croydon), T. Binns, Josiah Forster, Stafford Allen, R. Alsop, Jonathan Pim (Dublin), J. Pumphrey (Birmingham), Arthur Allright (Birmingham), W. Pollard (Hertford), Wilson Armistead (Leeds), James Ellis (Leicester), J. H. Estcourt (Manchester), Thomas Beggs, William Allen, F. W. Chesson, R. Hill (Bedford), Henry Brown, jun. (Luton), L. A. Chamerovzow,

George Sturge (Northfleet), T. B. Smithies, Alfred Webb (Dublin), J. R. Wigham (Dublin), T. A. Burr, &c.

The Duke of ARGYLL, in opening the proceedings, said that it might be assumed that the result of the American war would be the abolition of negro Slavery. The result, however, would not be attained without great difficulty to the Government and people of the country, and of great distress and suffering to a large proportion of the negro population. The object of the Society was to assist the people and Government of the United States in feeding and clothing, and educating the vast negro population that had fallen into their hands. There had for some time been two or three of these Societies in this country; but they had not met with great support, partly, no doubt, because while the war was raging many people thought that to take part in the proceedings of the Societies would have been in some degree a political demonstration. He did not think that belief to be well founded, for the Societies dealt simply with the negroes; and no Englishman, whether his sympathies were with the North or the South, was in favour of Slavery. Now the war was virtually over, this feeling must vanish; but there was still a lingering belief that the Government and people of the United States had not been in earnest with respect to Slavery. He would deal with this point. His Grace then proceeded to shew the bearing which Slavery had upon the war in respect to the conduct and actions of the Government and people of the United States. Amid all the various disputes as to the cause and origin of the war, it was admitted by all parties that the immediate cause was the election of Abraham Lincoln as President of the United States. But why was Abraham Lincoln obnoxious to the people of the seceding States? Was it his platform, as it was called in America—his policy—to advocate the abolition of Slavery? Certainly not. But had his election no connection with Slavery? Were not points connected with Slavery other than its abolition concerned in his election? He would state a few facts in regard to the "platform," which in other words was a declaration of principle laid down by the party who selected President Lincoln as their candidate. It was divided into seventeen heads, and no less than one-third was devoted to various questions connected with Slavery, and every one, moreover, was adverse to the interests of Slavery. The most important of all was, not whether Slavery should be abolished, but whether it should be supported and allowed to extend itself into the Territories of the United States. That, however, was not the only question. There were questions of principle which appeared to him to cut very deep into—to the root, in fact, of the whole Slavery question. His Grace quoted largely from the platform, in order, as he said, that no mere general inference might be drawn from his remarks. After reading these extracts, he contended that it was impossible to deny that Slavery did not enter into the question of Abraham Lincoln's election. Beyond what was laid down on that platform, not only did Abraham Lincoln pretend not to go, but it was not in his



power to go. It was the fault of the constitution of his country that he did not go further; and, whatever might be the faults of the American people themselves, it must be allowed that they had shewn—and it was a great virtue—that they were always restrained within the limits of the law. What, however, he wanted to shew was, that President Lincoln made no pretence whatever—nor, indeed, any member of his Government—of going beyond the platform on which he was elected. The subsequent measures taken by President Lincoln against Slavery—not only against its extension, but against its existence in the seceding States—were taken avowedly by him, not as political measures, but as measures of military necessity. He never made any secret of this: on the contrary, he avowed it to the people of America and to the whole world. As shewing this, his Grace quoted from the proclamation of January 1863, and from the report of the United-States' Freedmen's Inquiry Commission, appointed by the Government in 1862 to inquire at New Orleans into the condition of the freed slaves. He adduced testimony to the same effect from President Lincoln's letter, written about twelve months ago, and which appeared in all the papers in this city at the time. Nothing, his Grace declared, after reading these extracts, could be more fair and honest than the language of the Government of the United States from the beginning to the end of this contest in respect to the question of Slavery. President Lincoln stuck to the platform on which he was elected: he was determined that Slavery should never extend itself into the Territories of the United States, because that was within his competence by the constitution of his country. The other measures which he took were rendered necessary by the course of the war and for the preservation of the national existence. Therefore he (the noble chairman) said, that so far as any prejudice existed in the mind of England, it was a prejudice founded on a misapprehension of the facts of the case. He could very well understand that, if what he had said should go forth to the American people, a very large part of them would consider this account of them, which professed to be a defence of them, was in some degree unjust. He was quite sure that would be felt by many men, by such men, indeed, as his distinguished friend, Mr. Sumner. And why should this be so? Because different sections and different parties had gone into this war with different feelings. He, however, spoke not of individuals or of powerful political parties, but of the conduct of the Government and people of the United States. His Grace then shewed that in so far as the election of President Lincoln had brought about this calamity on the people of the United States, it was brought upon them through their increasing devotion to the cause of anti-slavery. In proof of this he quoted President Buchanan. His grace, having done this, said he thought he had proved his points; first, that the platform of President Lincoln did direct itself against the extension of Slavery; secondly, in so far as he went beyond the platform he avowed, he did so on the ground of military necessity; and, lastly, that the election of Presi-

dent Lincoln was the culmination of a long period of agitation in the North, and really did produce the calamity which had befallen the American people and nation. On these grounds he thought it was perfectly clear that the language often held in this country, and the opinions no doubt sincerely entertained in this country, that the American people had been dealing insincerely—he might even say hypocritically—in the question of Slavery, was entirely unfounded. His Grace afterwards referred to the virulent language held by the people of the South—and made mention particularly of ministers of religion—in support of the institution of Slavery. He likewise noticed the accounts brought home by travellers who had enjoyed the hospitality of the South, and in conclusion he forcibly urged the claims of the Society upon the sympathy and aid of Englishmen.

Lord Houghton, Mr. John Hodgkin, Mr. C. Buxton, M.P., Sir T. F. Buxton, Dr. Vaughan, the Rev. Dr. Storrs, Mr. Thomas Hughes, Dr. Bliss, Mr. J. M. Ludlow, and Mr. Jonathan Pim, moved and seconded resolutions in accordance with the objects of the meeting. A vote of thanks was given to Messrs. Inman and Co., Messrs. Guion and Co., and other shipowners, for their generous allowance of free freight for all Freedmen's-Aid Society's consignments; also, to Mr. T. R. Arnott, of Liverpool, for his indefatigable services as shipping agent. The meeting also expressed a hope that the example of American railway transport companies in conveying free the provisions for the famishing Irish might be followed on this side of the water on behalf of the freedmen of America.

Letters were also read which expressed sympathy with the object of the meeting, from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Oxford, Mr. Adams (the United-States' Minister), Dr. Livingstone, Lord Shaftesbury, and Mr. Secretary Chase. A number of members of Parliament, who had agreed to take resolutions were prevented from doing so in consequence of being summoned to a division in the House of Commons. The following subscriptions were announced to the Committee at the close of the meeting: Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Bart., 300*l.*; Joseph Gibbons, Esq., 250*l.*; A. A., 50*l.*; George S. Goschen, Esq., M.P., 50*l.*; W. E. Forster, Esq., M.P., 50*l.* per annum for three years; his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, 10*l.*; Vincent Lean, Esq., 10*l.*; Robert Gaskall, 5*l.*; sundry small sums, 14*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.*; the Dowager Lady Buxton, 100*l.*; E. N. Buxton, Esq., 50*l.*

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

#### FURTHER PUBLIC ACTION.

On the 13th ult. another Conference, preceded by a breakfast, took place in Birmingham, on the occasion of the visit to this country of the Rev. Dr. Storrs, representing the Cincinnati Freedmen's-Aid Association, and the Hon. C. C. Leigh, Agent of the National Freedmen's-Relief Association, New York. The Conference was attended by delegates from the various kindred organizations, and from the *British*



and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society,\* and resolutions were adopted in furtherance of the movement. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Free-trade Hall, when addresses by the Rev. Dr. Storrs and the Hon. C. C. Leigh, the guests of the day, were delivered by them. The proceedings were most enthusiastic, and every encouragement to the mission of these gentlemen was given by a large and influential assemblage.

In our next we hope to give a detailed account of these proceedings.

In Paris, the movement inaugurated by Levi Coffin and A. Albright, appears to be progressing satisfactorily. Mons. E. Laboulaye has issued a stirring appeal to the editors of the press in France, with a view to promote subscriptions in France in aid of the freedmen, of which the following is a translation:

"At the present moment, when all eyes are turned towards America, we appeal to your generosity on behalf of the slaves freed by the war. Victims of the oldest and most odious of iniquities, no longer possessing the selfish guarantees of servitude, and yet incompetent to use the rights of liberty, at this moment, when the day of deliverance dawns for them, they more than ever need our assistance, which, moreover, is but a reparation we owe them. Two millions of persons—old men, women, and children—are without bread, clothing, and shelter. In the midst of a ruinous war, the Americans have made the most generous sacrifices; but the wants are so great, that these efforts are insufficient. Ought Europe not to do something in its turn? Will it do nothing? We do not think so. England has already responded to the appeal. France, the old ally of the United States, cannot remain a stranger to it. It is not a question of politics, but simply one of justice and humanity."

### FREEDMEN'S COLUMN.

#### INDUSTRY OF THE FREEDMEN.

The Rev. Elnathan Davis, in the *American Missionary*, bears testimony, as follows, to the industry of the freedmen:

"Many hundreds of thousands have been thus emancipated—amidst war scenes too, which are always unfavourable to improvement—and with what industrial result? Will the freed people work? The thousands of little cabins, with well-cultivated patches around them, that have suddenly appeared in the fields utterly desolated by the march and conflict of armies, and the eagerness with which they are everywhere employed by individuals as well as

\* R. Alsop and L. A. Chamerovzow were the delegates, but the latter could not attend owing to the pressure of other business.—(Ed. A.S.R.)

by the Government, are a sufficient answer. All that I had accepted on testimony has been abundantly confirmed by the closest observations I have been able to make.

"I have lived in log cabins, and roughed it in frontier settlements, but I never saw industry so patient, or courage in the building of houses so indomitable among white men, as I have everywhere witnessed in the freedmen. Mingo Obman, at the age of fifty-two, escaped from Slavery in May 1863, and came to Roanoke Island. He had one dime and 'two red cents' to begin life with. Afterwards his wife escaped—as poor and ragged as himself—and joined him on the island.

"They are now living in a neat cabin, built by his own hands; and, in answer to my inquiry, he told me that his wife as well as himself was well clothed; that they had plenty of provisions for themselves and to give a meal to anybody who was hungry, and would accept it; that he had 100 dollars in cash, besides 250 due from the Government, which, he drily remarked, 'he could afford to lose if Uncle Sam needed it more than he did.' I asked him if he had children. 'One, who, with her husband, had escaped from Slavery, and was living in Newbern, and she is doing better than I am,' he added. This is industry. Call this an exception if you please, but it shews what a black man can do, and, as we judge ourselves by the best specimens among us, so should we estimate the black race. I asked Obman, by the way, if he would give a meal to a hungry rebel as soon as to others? 'Yes,' he slowly answered, 'but I should want him to leave mighty quick after he'd got his victuals.'

"Looking upon the new freedom, and studying, so far as possible, the interior history of this great exodus, I can scarcely express my own mature conviction better than in the words of a freedman whom I met on Roanoke. 'On the whole, are you satisfied with freedom?' I said. 'Bless de Lord,' was his quick reply, 'in every pint o' view it is supreme.'

(From the *New Orleans' Correspondent of the "Daily News."*)

"There are in this military department, including the Mississippi River to Cairo, the defences direct and indirect of this city, and at the points of rendezvous for the Mobile expedition, at least 60,000 coloured troops. These men have been placed in the army without any outlay for recruiting, a saving in this item fully equal to the amount spent for the maintenance and care of the helpless of the race within this department. I have seen these troops on the march and in fort, and I could only wish that all the soldiers were as well prepared as they, in point of cleanliness, discipline, and drill. The slave has been disciplined all his life, and has learned, at least, the lesson of obedience—the first, and one might say almost the last, requisite for a soldier. The officers in command of these men, officers of judgment and experience, are enthusiastic in their praises. The fighting qualities of the race have been so well proved as to force conviction on the most sceptical. They

seem to be conscious of the position they occupy before the world.

"About two years ago there was established in this city a 'Bureau of Free Labour,' to employ the freedmen and protect them when employed; to keep property secure, promote industry, supply the markets, in short, to make labour and capital strike hands, and unite in laying the groundwork of prosperity for a new and more exalted system of affairs. To give an idea of the necessity for this bureau, and the magnitude of the labour it undertook, I cannot do better than quote from the report of the Superintendent: 'When I recal the state of affairs at the time thousands upon thousands of the coloured population were raised from Slavery to freedom, along the line of march of the 'Army of the Gulf;' when suddenly, in a state of fright and confusion, vast numbers of families left the places where they were subjected to the lash, the stocks, and to all the horrors of their condition as slaves, and set out upon a long, wearisome, and dangerous march to places of security, where for the first time they could look upon our flag, and say they were free beneath its folds; when the old and infirm, the young and able, all came in one vast exodus, bearing with them loads of property which they thought would be of use to them; when men and women of a hundred years of age, under the strength imparted by the sweet prospect of liberty, marched with the alacrity of half their age, and endured hardships that would ordinarily be considered beyond the capacities of human nature; when the basins and rivers were filled with steamers and vessels of all descriptions, loaded with anxious creatures, who, from exposure, fright, and abuse, were, in alarming numbers, dying beneath the weight of their sorrows; when, on every road, crowds of them could be seen at all hours, day and night, seeking a place of asylum and refuge;—when I recall these scenes, and then consider that, with a few months of exertion and the enforcement of regulations suited to a condition of things so serious and alarming, this people has been greatly improved, and kept from idleness and persecution, as well as from being an enormous tax upon the Government, I think there is just ground for gratitude to God and hope for this race.'

"The number of those who found employment for themselves without help or intervention from anybody is estimated at 30,000. Though they are not directly under the management of the bureau, still they there seek any necessary aid.

"At first the principles and sentiments of the local courts were against listening to the pleas of the blacks: they are now treated in all respects as whites, and, with the new State constitution as their foundation, can demand protection and justice in any court in this department.

"Those who are working on leased or registered plantations have a form of contract with their employers, prescribed by the Government agents. This contract provides as follows: That the labourers shall be paid, No. 1 hands, 25 dols. per month; No. 2, 20 dols. per month; No. 3, 15 dols. per month: the same classification of females, 18 dols., 14 dols., and 10 dols. per month respec-

tively, one half the wages being paid each month, and the remainder at the end of the year; that fuel, medical attendance, and a separate house shall be furnished each family; that each family shall have an acre of ground for garden purposes; that each labourer shall have half of Saturday for his own uses; that the employer shall provide at actual cost, on the plantation, a good and sufficient supply of food and clothing; that in case the workman shall neglect his work, upon proof of the fact to the superintendent of the bureau, whatever retained pay may be due to him shall be forfeited, one half to the employer, one half to the bureau for the support of the helpless. The refractory workman may be still further punished by being placed at work on Government works without pay."

(From Correspondence in New York Times.)

"New Orleans, January 20.—The planters in this State, who have been such all their lives, and those extemporized out of Northern men who have come here to make money, seem to feel quite encouraged in spite of the universal failure of last year. I have conversed with quite a number who have been involved in debt by the failure alluded to, who think they will the coming season make up for the past, and have their hopes realized by an abundant yield. One thing is certain, the great objection which was urged against the free-labour system, that the negroes would not work except by coercion, has been exploded. I am in almost daily communication with old and lifelong planters—men of Southern birth and associations—who tell me that they have, to their surprise, found the labourers contented and obedient, and in many cases the interest in the crop raised has excited to cheerful work many who, under the coercive rule, were worthless except under compulsion. It must also be remembered that the negroes who worked on our Louisiana plantations the last year were paid a stipend in clothes and provisions, and were to be further rewarded by a certain per-centage upon the amount realized by the exported crop. Now, these emancipated men understand their bargain with their employers perfectly, and the hope of a liberal reward made quick hands, and called forth many songs. The poor people were hopeful to a degree. They saw all their bright prospects blasted by the worm and the frost; they felt that the elements were against them. Disappointed, they have not complained, but bear up under their losses with patience, and are ready to begin again, relying upon their strong arms and newly-acquired freedom, under the blessing of Providence, yet to succeed.

The following is an extract of a report on the condition of the freedmen in the department of the Cumberland and in the Mississippi Valley, forwarded to the Friends' Board of Control, representing the Associated Yearly Meetings of the West, for the relief of freedmen, by Jos. Dickinson of Richmond, J. M. Macy of Lewisville, Indiana, and Thos. Clarkson Hill of Carthage, Indiana, appointed a Visiting Committee for this purpose.



## EXTRACTS.

"They arrived at Nashville, Tennessee, on the 19th of 1st month, 1865.

"The population of this city was formerly about 50,000, has been almost doubled during the war. It is situated in a beautiful rolling country, and although nearly all the vacant lots, and hundreds of acres adjoining, are occupied by temporary business houses, dwellings, and huts, many more are in demand, and rents are extremely high. About 15,000 freedmen are crowded into and around the city in shanties, smoke-houses, and other out-buildings. One large house, the roof of which had been burned, was occupied by about twenty coloured families, who are paying from eight to twelve dollars per month each, for single rooms, with nothing more than an oil-cloth, or something of the kind, stretched over their beds as a shelter against snow and rain.

"Outside of the city is a camp for such coloured people as are dependent upon Government for support, numbering about 1000. These have recently been supplied with clothing by the Pennsylvania Freedmen's Relief Association, through their local agent, W. F. Mitchell.

"The condition of this camp is lamentable. Many of the barracks and tents are exceedingly filthy and offensive. Sickness and suffering abound, and from five to seven deaths occur daily. During the first eleven days of last month the fatality was much greater, averaging ten per day.

"As the deputation were passing, a woman begged of the agent a box in which to bury her child. For a considerable length of time the dead were buried without either coffins or boxes. The advance of Hood's army upon Nashville caused a large number of these people to flee before it, and the aged and infirm, as well as the sick and those exhausted by a journey of from sixty to ninety miles, in midwinter, principally on foot, were left here, which partly accounts for this deplorable state of things. One schoolhouse has been erected in this camp, and W. F. Mitchell has also secured the use of a large frame building for an asylum for the orphan children, of whom he thought there were one hundred. There did not seem to be much suffering for the want of food or clothing among the freedmen in the city.

"There are six schools, with an aggregate attendance of 600 pupils, and about one-third pay for tuition. Owing to the crowded condition of the city, no further provision for the instruction of these people can be made, except by erecting the necessary buildings.

"In consequence of the unsettled condition of affairs south of Nashville, the camps of freedmen at Murfreesboro', Decatur, and Huntsville were not visited. At Murfreesboro' there are about 250, who are comparatively comfortable, having one school in operation.

"At Decatur and Huntsville, Ala., there are near 1250, who have suffered much this winter, from being driven from place to place by the Southern army, but who now occupy their original camps again.

"Hendersonville.—On the farm known as General Donaldson's, sixteen miles north of Nash-

ville, is a camp of 700 persons, who fled before the rebel army from near Pulaski, about eighty miles from Nashville. In addition to the sufferings and many other hardships attending this long midwinter march, they lost much of their clothing and almost all of their bedding and other property. The negro quarters and other buildings on this farm afford shelter for a considerable number, yet more than one-half of them are living in worn out soldier's tents, without any cooking utensils.

"This apparently healthy location is, in many other respects, a favourable one. Wood and water are convenient, and log-cabins are being rapidly put up. The sick are comfortably cared for in a brick house near by.

"Under so many discouraging circumstances it was surprising to see them looking so well and cheerful.

"The agents will immediately attend to supplying their necessities in the way of clothing, from the stock on hand in Nashville. Here there will soon be a favourable opening for schools.

"Gallatin is the county seat of Summer county, twenty-six miles north of Nashville, on the Louisville railroad, and has a population of about 25,000, 1500 of which are coloured. In the camp near by are 462 freedmen, living in very poor tents, which are soon to be exchanged for better ones. Although scantily clothed, both their persons and tents present as cleanly and tidy appearance as could be expected. Here, as well as at Hendersonville, Government will employ them on the adjoining farms. Both of these camps are under efficient management, and schools will soon be opened in them. In the town of Gallatin are six Friends engaged in teaching the freedmen.

"Clarksville is another military post, situated on the Cumberland river, about sixty miles below Nashville, and has a population of about 4000, one-half coloured. The banks of the river vary in height from 200 to 400 feet. The country is rolling, and apparently healthy. Several coloured regiments of soldiers have been formed here since the Union army has held the post.

"One mile and a half distant is the 'home farm,' where are about 1300 freedmen, dependent upon Government for support.

"At Providence, two miles down the river, is a town of 1500 inhabitants, two-thirds of whom are coloured, under the protection of a strong fort. The condition of this people at these three points, as respects clothing and many of the conveniences of life, is much better than at any other locality visited in the department of the Cumberland.

"This is mainly owing to the favourable circumstances under which they left their homes, and came into the Union lines. Many of them hauled their clothing, bedding, &c., into the camps with their masters' teams.

"Through the energy and perseverance of Captain Brunt, several long one-story frame buildings have been put up, and so divided as to furnish each family with a room about eight by twelve feet, having a brick fireplace and chimney. He has also in the camp a shoe-shop, in which several of the old men and boys are learning to



make shoes, under the instruction of a practical shoemaker, a soldier detailed to that service.

"About 600 are attending schools, taught by twelve teachers, nine of whom are Friends. Several of these schools were visited. Much energy and good management have been exhibited here, in the erection of suitable schools and dwelling-houses for teachers. As it is not likely this people will soon be removed from this healthy location, more than ordinary inducements are held out to send more teachers and labourers for their elevation.

"Having finished their visit to the freedmen in the department of the Cumberland, the deputation went down the Mississippi river, and arrived at Memphis on the 2nd of 2nd month; but as Colonel Eaton, Superintendent of Freedmen in this department, was absent at Washington business, it was thought best to go to Helena, Arkansas, a town on the river, sixty-five miles below Memphis, containing a population of nearly 4000 persons, one-third of whom are coloured. Upon the surrounding high bluffs are extensive fortifications, commanding both the town and river. At the camp, three miles below, there are about 450 freedmen, who are living upon Government rations. Here several cases of small-pox were found, but no hospital for their accommodation; and, in many other respects, this camp is in poor condition, owing mainly to the neglect of the Superintendent, who was then being tried before court-martial, and has since been removed. A new Superintendent has been placed in charge. Freedmen are arriving almost daily, in a destitute condition, so that the stock of clothing at this point is answering a good purpose. Such as are able to labour will be employed during crop season upon the adjoining lands.

"The Orphan Asylum in town, under the management of Calvin and Alida Clark, is a place of much interest. They have sixty children, in a small two-storey frame house, with five rooms, and some small out-buildings for cooking and dining-rooms. Government furnishes rations and fuel for the Institution. The former consists of barrel-pork and beef, beans, flour and corn meal, and Calvin Clark occasionally exchanges a barrel of pork or beef for molasses. Each child is furnished with a tin cup, tin plate, knife and fork, and an iron spoon, and as the room is small they stand at the table to take their meals. The smaller children sleep five in a bed, with their heads to the side instead of the end. They are comfortably clothed, attend school regularly, have daily scriptural instruction adapted to their capacities, and all appear cheerful and happy. In short, every thing about the asylum appears to be managed in the most judicious and economical manner. A Friend is conducting an industrial school at this place, in which she is instructing the women and girls to cut out and make clothing. Some new goods are used in this way, but the largest proportion of the material consists of second-hand over-coats and other army clothing, which, under her management, are converted into capes, jackets, vests, pants, skirts, &c., for the freedmen. About 100 have taken lessons in this school, and from ten to twenty are daily engaged, who receive reasonable wages, either in money or clothing,

as they may prefer, and the expenses are met by the sale of clothing, at low rates, to those who have means to pay for them. About 450 children and adults attend schools, under eight teachers, five of whom are members of the Society of Friends. Most of them are reading easy lessons and writing on slates, while a few are studying geography and arithmetic, and their orderly conduct and good progress speak well for the teachers.

"They have short Scripture lessons daily, and their prompt and correct answers to questions relative to the mission of Christ, the plan of salvation, and many others, both upon the Old and New Testament, are very surprising. The labours of these friends have been greatly facilitated by the co-operation of General Buford and wife, who have shewed themselves to be true friends to the freedmen.

"Island 63 is situated twenty-five miles below Helena, and contains 800 freedmen. A large number of the men and women are chopping wood for Government, and others cultivate the land during the summer season, so that almost all are self-sustaining. A Friend and his wife are conducting one day school and one industrial school, and otherwise labouring for their elevation.

"The deputation arrived at Vicksburg on the 8th of 2nd month, and found Elkanah and Irena Beard preparing to return home. They think the present necessities of the freedmen as to clothing have been relieved. Some are arriving almost daily at different points, in a very destitute condition, yet the various local agents are expected to give attention to their wants. In the afternoon several schools were visited. Upon Davis' Bend, about twenty-six miles below Vicksburg, there are about 9000 acres of land, 7000 of which are tillable, and the number of freedmen variously estimated at from 5000 to 7000. These are located in five or six different colonies, and a Superintendent, vested with some military authority, is placed over each colony. The home farm, of 800 acres, formerly the residence of Jefferson Davis, is under the management of Captain Norton, who, in the cultivation of the land, is authorized by Government to give employment, by the day or month, to such of the freedmen as have no farming implements, or are unable to manage a tract for themselves, and they are paid reasonable wages, either in money or provisions, as they prefer. The balance of land on the Bend will soon be divided up into parcels, adapted to their capacity and industry, by the respective Superintendents of colonies, leased to people for the year.

"Hundreds of small huts and cabins, principally of split timber and poles, have been put up by these people. Some are endeavouring to give them an air of comfort, while others look extremely filthy. At the adjoining farm, known as the Joe Davis Place, is located the resident surgeon for the Bend, Dr. Foster. Near his quarters are five new Government hospital buildings, in which are about 200 under medical treatment. The surgeon reported that nourishing food, shelter, and warm clothing, were the best remedies for most of his patients, for a large number of them had but recently come into the

Union lines, and had been sent there suffering much from exposure and exhaustion. Although one of the agents has recently visited almost every hut upon the Bend, distributing clothing to the needy, it is advisable to send five boxes to Dr. Foster for distribution amongst the destitute as they arrive, and also among the aged and infirm at the hospital.

"An intelligent young man, formerly a slave upon this plantation, has just opened a small store of groceries in a shed near the hospital, which he is selling at reasonable rates to his fellow-freedmen of the different colonies.

"Davis' Bend is a favourable location for these people, and they appear to be generally healthy; but those in authority think that about as many are already here as can do well.

"The United Presbyterians have two ministers and ten teachers here, two or more of whom have been appointed Superintendents of colonies, and two more teachers and two more ministers were on the way to this place. Owing to the want of more and better school houses, there are only four schools, with an aggregate attendance of about 500 pupils."

(From the Rev. Elnathan Davis' "An Hour in the Home for Coloured Refugees.")

"It is known to the friends of the American Missionary Association that Congress has declared the families of coloured soldiers free, and that by this act the freedom of some 60,000 persons, formerly slaves in Kentucky, is recognised before the law. It is also, perhaps, as well known that the great majority of the old slavemasters there—with the refinement peculiar to slaveholding—are treating these poor people with extreme rigour. They are literally being threshed out of their old haunts, which should have been their homes, and compelled to fly. The husbands and fathers are following the flag—under other stripes than those which once fell on them—and the old oppressors, enraged at their loss, strike at the nation's black defenders through those dearest to them. Where shall these poor souls hide from the blast of tyranny? To whom, for the time being, shall they go? The Government is building a home within the defences of this camp, situated in the very heart of Kentucky. It is a city of refuge; and to it—in weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—they joyfully come.

"I wish the readers of the 'American Missionary' could sit by me an hour, and hear the reasons given by these people why they come, as pilgrims, to this shrine of liberty. A record is kept by the clerk at the Home, of name, age, place of residence, name of master, mistress, &c., together with the reasons which lead the freed people to seek refuge here. 'Wanted to be free' is a common reason. A boy was this morning 'shinin' up' a pair of boots for some one of the Government officials, when another boy said to him, 'You black boots! What did you come to Camp Nelson for?' 'I come for liberty: ain't that enough?' he promptly answered. 'I come to learn, too,' he added, in the same earnest tone. Was a nobler utterance ever made by a boy than that? But to the record. It is a sad one—not

wholly so to be sure; and yet it seems to me one long wailing from hearts that have been tortured by the foul system that has so widely desolated our country.

"Hear the witnesses:

"*Maria*.—'Was beaten badly by her master.'

"*Mary Boyce*.—'Left on account of being whipped and beaten.'

"*Lucinda*.—'She and her children were cruelly treated.'

"*Dinah*.—'Mistress threatened to shoot her.'

"*Nancy*.—'Master beat her and her children with any thing at hand.'

"*Julia Ann*.—'Master told her to go off. Kept her best clothing. Put her in jail for asking for food. Told her to go to Lincoln and get it.'

"*Eda*.—'Badly treated. Mistress said she would take a gun and blow her brains out.'

"*Flora*.—'Mistress drew a gun and threatened to shoot her for speaking for the Union cause.'

"*Julia*.—'Master threatened to give her 150 lashes. He is a preacher.'

"*Sarah*.—'Neither fed nor clothed properly by her master. Bound wheat all harvest: kept up with the cradle all day. Asked for clothing, and was told to go to Lincoln, or to hell! Preferred to go to Lincoln.'

"*Charlotte*.—'Master whipped me because I could not do work enough. The men had left, and we had to do their work. Whipped me last week with a cowhide. Master is a rebel of the strongest kind. As for crowing over freedom, he said that was played out. Said all his niggers was Camp-Nelson struck. Said his side always whipped. If his niggers went to Camp Nelson he would get them. If they went to hell he would get them. I feel mighty bad about leaving my children. He took my nursing baby, three months old. I have been drawing my milk every day since, hoping I shall nurse the baby again.'"

(From the *National Freedman* for May 1864.)

#### "LOUISIANA.

"Our English friends, represented by Arthur Albright, B. H. Cadbury, and a host of others, will be glad to know that a portion of their gifts have already reached Louisiana, and will be of great good in relieving the present distress. But the immediate demand for this and other States is vastly beyond our present means: our friends at home and abroad will see that their contributions, generous as undoubtedly they are, will enable us to reach but few of the thousand hands outstretched and crying for help.

"New Orleans, April 14, 1865.

"F. G. SHAW, Esq., Pres. N.F.R.A.,  
New York.

"DEAR SIR,—Yours of the 25th ult. to our President, B. F. Flanders, Esq., duly came to hand, and was read to our Association at their regular meeting on Tuesday evening last, with many manifestations of pleasure on the part of our members.

"We accept with many thanks your appropriate present of the hoes, and will see that they are faithfully distributed. The circular herewith points out the immediate requirements of the



freedmen. Corn, cotton-seed, and pork, and draft animals, are the articles which are always asked for. Suddenly thrown upon their own resources, the freedmen want the very necessities of life, until they can gather from the earth their growing crops. The field of our exertions is increasing daily, and we only regret that our means are so restricted, as to enable us to relieve so few of the bands of coloured men now cultivating our soil.

"It will give me great pleasure to continue the correspondence with your Society; and tendering you the thanks of this Association to yours, for your substantial aid, warm sympathy, and hearty co-operation, I remain respectfully,

"Your obedient servant,

"CHARLES W. HORNER,

"Corresponding Secretary."

"OFFICE OF THE FREEDMEN'S AID ASSOCIATION FOR THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS.

"New Orleans, April 5, 1865.

"DEAR SIR,—Herewith please find list of the officers and directors of the Freedmen's Aid Association of the city of New Orleans, with a concise statement of the objects of the Association.

"The importance of this movement is apparent. The division of the large plantations in Louisiana has already begun, and some of the lands of those persons engaged in the rebellion have been taken possession of by the Government, and parcelled and rented out to the freedmen. They are now cultivating these portions of the soil of the State, in squads of men, women, and children, varying in number from fifteen to 100, and sometimes even more. Under the leases from the United States, the capacity of the freedmen for self-government, and their ability as well as their entire willingness to work and till the ground will be demonstrated. Left entirely unprovided for by their old masters, and having derived little or no reward from their previous labours under the system of leases for the past year, they necessarily need the aid and co-operation of their friends to raise their crops. Their immediate wants are seeds to plant, instruments to break up the soil, animals for ploughing, and a moderate supply of pork. Without these, their labours will not be altogether unproductive; but with them, the happiest results may be looked for.

"The freedmen do not desire aid for their material wants as a gift; and all advances to them are matters of regular contract, for which the coming crop stands pledged. The aim of this Society is to procure for them this assistance, so far as within its limited power; and to see that the moneys disbursed shall inure directly to the benefit of the freedmen. Every dollar expended will be strictly accounted for, and will be invested in materials and supplies under the immediate supervision of the Society.

"There has also been inaugurated a system of prizes to incite the industry and heighten the zeal of the freedmen in the great work they have now before them.

"We cordially invite all friends and kindred Societies throughout the United States to lend

us their aid and their co-operation in this movement. From the devastations of war and rebellion, we hope, by the aid of these freedmen, to bring back Louisiana as a Free State into the Union of our fathers; and make her future brighter and more glorious than her past.

"It is hardly necessary to add that no distinction of race or class is recognised by this Society, and that on this principle its officers and directors have been selected.

"Respectfully, your obedient servant,

"CHARLES W. HORNER,

"Corresponding Secretary."

NORTH CAROLINA.

(An appeal from Wilmington.—Letter from Rev. Horace James.)

"Wilmington, N.C., April 5, 1865.

"DEAR BROTHER,—I have been three days in Wilmington, and find a world of work to do in settling, clothing, feeding, and educating the coloured people and refugees of this new district. I brought with me from Morehead Mrs. E. L. Piper, one of your teachers, and we came in company with several sent by the American Missionary Association, all of whom will immediately enter on duty, under the general supervision of Mr. Samuel S. Ashley, who is my assistant superintendent for this district, and a man long and favourably known by the Christian community. How many teachers will be needed for the Cape-Fear River, I cannot yet tell. A census will be taken as soon as the surging waves of population become a little still. Six are on the ground: not less than three times that number will soon be wanted. But the most pressing want just now is presented in the enclosed letter of Brigadier-General Hawley, who commands the district, and is a man of warm sympathies with the freedmen, and one who will give us all needed facilities in carrying on our work.

"We do not propose to collect these thousands of refugees into the town, nor put them into camps, but settle them on some fine, large, abandoned plantations of corn and rice, lying near the river, in the vicinity of Fort Anderson, some eight or ten miles down from Wilmington, on the west bank of the Cape-Fear River. But the rice season is upon us, some have already planted, though it will do to put in this crop as late as June 10th. We want now quantities of axes, heavy hilling hoes, the narrow hoe to make trenches for the rice in the top of the prepared ridges, good strong spades, and hammers and nails for cabin building, a few ploughs for the corn land, and a few froes with which to rive out boards, also some butt hinges for doors and windows.

"We must set these people at work on these rich and ample plantations immediately. It will not do to lose this season. The new Freedmen's Bureau will not get running before dog-days, by present appearances, and we can't wait for it. Do, my dear Sir, stir up our friends at the North to give us some help at once, with which to help ourselves. Government will have to feed these people till their crop is secured, but no longer, if we give them now a lift in tools and material.



"Blankets, shoes, and clothing are also needed for the people from the country, who are very destitute indeed, though the coloured people in town seem pretty well clothed.

"We intend to issue tools, &c., to these people, charging them at cost price, they to pay the same after their crop is made, but, if unsuccessful, not to be collected, of course. Send every thing directed to 'Captain Horace James, A.Q.M.,' and send if possible direct, it is so hard to get things through Morehead or Newbern, now that all supplies for Sherman's army go through that way. I shall be here often, and oversee the whole work. Mr. Ashley will act efficiently in my absence. This settlement at Fort Anderson will be a grand place for schools, but I will write you more of this after I have visited the spot.

"Our first and crying necessity is tools and supplies. Wilmington is perfectly denuded of such things, and the Government has none on hand. We are to have a good storehouse on the wharf, and all needful office-room. We have magnificent quarters for teachers, and a good beginning made. The way is open for all, and the Cape Fear River is a very promising opening for all our operations. Let us not fail to strike a hard blow here. I remain faithfully yours,

"HORACE JAMES,

"Captain and A.Q.M., Supt. &c."

"Rev. C. Leigh."

#### DISTRICT OF WILMINGTON.

"Wilmington, N.C., April 5, 1865.

"SIR,—This district was suddenly constituted, and in addition to the freedmen found within its limits, and those who naturally came in from the surrounding country, 6000 or 7000 came down, most of them in one day, from Major-General Sherman's army. In supervising all these, and providing for their immediate necessities, the energies of the few officers and soldiers upon whom the burden fell were exerted to the utmost. Add to this that 9000 paroled prisoners were most unexpectedly delivered here, totally destitute, thousands of them going immediately into hospitals, and that several thousand white persons had to be fed, and you will see that, generous as the Government is in all such matters, there must be embarrassment and suffering. We were utterly unable to furnish many of the necessities of life.

"I wish that you would appeal to the benevolent and liberal people of the North, who have already done so much. We need clothing for destitute whites and blacks. In endeavouring to put the freed population upon the large plantations on the Cape Fear River, we are greatly embarrassed by the want of axes, shovels, hoes (light and heavy), hammers, saws, nails, and a few ploughs.

"I think that if you estimate for the wants of 15,000 labouring people you will not get more than can be judiciously used. Your own experience will guide you in this better than my suggestions. What we need we need this very day, for the planting season is upon us, and we have many people houseless or improperly crowded.

"Very respectfully,

"Your obedient servant,

(Signed) "Jos. R. HAWLEY,

"Brigadier-General Commanding."

"To Captain James, A.Q.M., Superintendent of Negro Affairs, Department North Carolina."

#### WHAT MANUFACTURERS MAY DO FOR THE FREEDMEN.

"The following list, carefully prepared, shows at a glance the kind of articles needed in the various departments, and in the different kinds of labour in which the freedmen are employed;

"AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS. — Ploughs, hoes, shovels, drills for sowing seeds, garden-rakes, ox-yokes.

"Nails, axes, hatchets, hammers, saws, chisels, augurs, gimlets, drawing-knives, planes, bits, locks for doors, padlocks, hasps and staples, butts, hinges, screws, files. And every thing in coarse carpentry.

"Leather, sole and upper, lasts, thread, pegs, shoe-knives, shoemaker's hammers, tacks, pincers, and findings generally.

"Palm-leaf hats for men and boys, and shaker's hoods.

"KITCHEN FURNITURE. — Stoves, pots, kettles, bake-ovens, frying-pans, saucepans, tin plates, coffee-pots, pans, basins, covered pails, dippers.

"CUTLERY.—Table knives and forks, coarse heavy pocket-knives, iron spoons.

"Blacksmiths' bellows, anvils, hammers, tongs, vises, cold chisels, etc.

"Writing paper, small slates, slate pencils.

"WOODENWARE.—Wash-tubs, pails, buckets, well-buckets, wooden trays or bowls, rolling-pins, coarse baskets.

"Well rope, plough lines, bed cord.

"Shoes for women, children, girls, boys (largest sizes), and men, shoestrings.

"Cotton cloth, printed calico, cotton osnaburgs, heavy ginghams, plaids and stripes, hickory shirting, linseys, kerseys, spool cotton, sewing cotton, white and coloured, in hanks, cotton yarn, knitting cotton, woollen yarn.

"Soap.

"FOR INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.—Sewing machines, buttons, hooks and eyes, pins, needles, shears, scissors, thimbles, spectacles for old people.

"Garden seeds of all kinds, turnip, onion, squash, beet, etc.

"Stoves and pipe for school-houses.